

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady speaks at a news conference about the NFL investigation of deflated footballs, in Foxborough, Mass. An NFL investigation has found that New England Patriots employees likely deflated footballs and that quarterback Tom Brady was “at least generally aware” of the rules violations. The 243-page report released Wednesday, May 6, 2015, said investigators found no evidence that coach Bill Belichick and team management knew of the practice. (AP Photo/Elise Amendola, File)

Deflate-Gate Investigation Implicates Pats, Brady

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Kerry, in Saudi Arabia, seeks pause in Yemen war

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry sought to secure a pause in Yemen's war as he arrived in Saudi Arabia Wednesday to meet with the king and other top officials, citing increased

Houthi rebels were pressing on with ground offensives and Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries were continuing their month-and-a-half-long bombing campaign.

Trapped in the middle are Yemeni civilians. Aid groups say they're struggling to

Salman Thursday.

The discussions are taking place as the rebels and their allies consolidated their hold over parts of the southern port city of Aden after heavy fighting with a militia loyal to the government they chased out of the country in March. The

Saudis with trying to ease access for aid organizations, blaming the Houthis for the continued violence. But not all humanitarian organizations agree, with several openly or implicitly criticizing the Saudi government for blocking air, land and sea routes into Yemen. Kerry said he believed a break in the fighting could be arranged in the coming days, mentioning telephone conversations he had this week with the Saudi foreign minister and that of "another country" who indicated the Houthis might be on board. It was a clear reference to Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.

Even a temporary halt to the fight "would be welcome news to the world," Kerry said. However, he stressed that any arrangement must entail conditions so no party to the conflict uses the moratorium to seize territory or otherwise gain an advantage, which could set back the humanitarian cause even further.

Yemen has long suffered from desperate poverty, political dysfunction and al-Qaida's most lethal branch. It has become more unstable in recent months as the Houthis, who are Shiite, seized much of the country and chased Yemen's internationally recognized president into exile. That prompted the Saudis and other Gulf Arab states to intervene. The Saudis also are backing pro-government forces on the ground trying to fight back against the Houthis. To help ease the growing need for food, water and shelter, Kerry announced \$68 million in new U.S. aid to Yemen. □



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, left, meets with youth at Salman Mosque in Djibouti, Djibouti, Wednesday, May 6, 2015. Kerry said Wednesday he intends to discuss with Saudi Arabian officials how to implement a "humanitarian pause" in Yemen's civil war, citing increased shortages of food, fuel and medicine that are adding to a crisis that has already caused some thousands of people to flee to neighboring countries. Kerry is also visiting Sri Lanka, Somalia, France, and Saudi Arabia on his trip.

(AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, Pool)

shortages of food, fuel and medicine that are adding to a crisis that already has neighboring countries bracing for a mass exodus of refugees. He was to hold further talks Thursday.

At a news conference in Djibouti, a nearby African nation that he visited on his way to the kingdom, Kerry said the United States was deeply concerned by the worsening humanitarian conditions in Yemen. He spoke just a boat trip away from the scene of the fighting, where Iran-backed

reach millions of people in need in what was the Arabian Peninsula's most impoverished state even before the war. With no end to the violence in sight, agencies are doing contingency planning for a prolonged conflict that prompts well over 100,000 Yemenis fleeing for abroad.

"The situation is getting more dire by the day," Kerry told reporters.

In Riyadh, Kerry met late Wednesday with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef. He'll see King

rebels captured the area's presidential palace, officials said, in another sign of their resilience in the face of Saudi-led airstrikes.

More strikes Wednesday throughout the country killed dozens of rebels, according to security officials. The U.N. says at least 646 civilians have been killed since the start of the bombing campaign March 26. Some 300,000 have been uprooted from their homes. In Djibouti, which has taken in several thousand refugees, Kerry credited the

Venezuelan military officers sentenced for plotting coup

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A group of Venezuelan military officers the government accused of plotting to blow up the presidential palace have been sent to prison, officials said Wednesday.

Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino Lopez announced on Twitter that eight officers had been convicted for

their role in a foiled coup attempt. The sentences ranged from five to eight years in prison.

In February, the administration of President Nicolas Maduro accused a laundry list of military officials, opposition politicians and business leaders of plotting to overthrow the South American country's 15 year-old

socialist revolution.

Among other things, Venezuelan officials accused the plotters of planning to commandeer a military jet to bomb the presidential palace, the defense ministry, and the headquarters of a state television network.

Venezuelan officials said the officers had been

conspiring with the United States, but never provided detailed evidence to the public.

At the time, the U.S. State Department called the accusation "ludicrous," and said the Maduro administration was attempting to distract the public from mounting economic and social woes. □

US leading effort to assign blame for Syria chlorine use

CARA ANNA

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP)

The United States is leading an effort to create a way to attribute blame for chlorine attacks in Syria, diplomats say, opening a possible path for action on an issue that has sparked outrage as reports of chemical attacks continue.

The U.N. Security Council has been unable to follow up on a resolution it passed last month that condemned such attacks in Syria and threatened action for further violations because no one has had a mandate to assign blame. Even though the council, badly divided on Syria, came together in 2013 to rid Syria of its chemical weapons program, chlorine was not included in that effort.

The chemical does not have to be declared because it is also used for regular purposes in industry.

A council diplomat on Wednesday said the proposed new mechanism likely would answer to the council and would allow experts access to look into attacks.

The U.S. did not immediately comment Wednesday. A U.S. official on Tuesday said, "We are actively engaged in conversations with U.N. colleagues" on the chlorine issue and that "the Security Council must address the need to determine who is responsible."

Russia also did not immediately comment. Moscow is a key ally of Syria's Assad regime and has used its veto power as a permanent council member to block attempts to take action on the war, which is now in its fifth year.

Russia has insisted that more evidence is needed to blame anyone for the chlorine attacks, while the U.S. and some other council members accuse the Syrian government, saying that no other party in the conflict has the helicopters to deliver such weapons. □



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Baltimore mayor, in reversal, asks for federal police probe



Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake holds a news conference on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 in Baltimore. The mayor called on U.S. government investigators to look into whether this city's beleaguered police department uses a pattern of excessive force or discriminatory policing. Rawlings-Blake's request came a day after new Attorney General Loretta Lynch visited the city and pledged to improve the police department.

(Kim Hairston/The Baltimore Sun via AP)

DAVID DISHNEAU
Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Baltimore's Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake said Wednesday she'll accept outside intervention to rebuild public trust in a city torn by riots over the death of Freddie Gray, a black man who suffered a fatal spinal injury in police custody.

Last week, Rawlings-Blake said she did not want federal oversight of her police department but changed course a day after a closed-door meeting at City Hall with the new U.S. attorney general, Loretta Lynch.

"I am determined not to allow a small handful of bad actors to tarnish the reputation of the overwhelming majority of police officers who are acting with honor and distinction," she wrote in a letter to Lynch.

Lynch has received the mayor's request and is considering it, Justice Department spokeswoman Dena Iverson said Wednesday.

"I think that's probably a step in the right direction,"

Gov. Larry Hogan said.

The city's police union and City Council president also welcomed the development.

A key figure who didn't immediately respond was Police Commissioner Anthony Batts, brought in from Oakland, California, by the mayor 2 1/2 years ago to reform the department.

The mayor's request could put Batts' leadership under a microscope. A police spokesman had no immediate response to requests for the commissioner's reaction. An email and a text message were not immediately returned.

Baltimore suffered days of unrest after Gray died April 19 after a week in a coma following his arrest. Protesters threw bottles and bricks at police the night of his funeral on April 27, injuring nearly 100 officers. More than 200 people were arrested as cars and businesses burned.

Baltimore has already been participating in a voluntary Justice Department review, requested by Rawlings-Blake and Batts last fall. It

would enable police to implement reforms without a court order or independent monitor.

But City Council President Jack Young said he's been warning since October that police won't change unless they're forced to.

"The police commissioner could have said, 'Well, now, I don't want to do that,' and he didn't have to do it," Young said. "In my opinion, it was a toothless tiger."

The Justice Department also is investigating whether Gray's civil rights were violated, a much narrower review than what Rawlings-Blake sought Wednesday.

Meanwhile, six officers face state charges ranging from assault to second-degree murder in Gray's death. At least two of them have filed motions challenging the prosecutor's assertion that Gray was arrested illegally. The investigation the mayor now wants is a wide-ranging civil-rights probe, examining how police use force, and search and arrest suspects. The department ultimately concluded that Ferguson's police and courts engaged in patterns of racial profiling, bigotry and profit-driven law enforcement, and directed local authorities to make changes. Local authorities still in-

sist they did nothing wrong. At least 20 police departments have been investigated this way for a variety of suspected systemic misconduct in the past five years, more than twice the number of cases opened in the previous five years, the Justice Department said when it opened the Ferguson inquiry. Baltimore police union president Gene Ryan said the union also has "issues with many of the current policies and procedures of the department," and pledged to cooperate with any investigation that could lead to improvement in the department and officers' morale. □



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Texas incident fuels concern about lone-wolf terror attacks

DAVID CRARY
ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The attempted attack on a provocative cartoon contest in Texas appears to reflect a scenario that has long troubled national security officials: A do-it-yourself terror plot, inspired by the Islamic State extremist group and facilitated through the ease of social media.

Trying to gauge which individuals in the United States pose such threats — and how vigorously they should be monitored — is a daunting challenge for counterterrorism agencies. Some experts caution that a limited number of small-scale attacks are likely to continue.

Michael McCaul, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said federal authorities are aware of “thousands” of potential extremists living in the U.S., only a small portion of whom are under active surveillance. Concerns have been intensifying since the rise of Islamic State group and were heightened this week after two gunmen were shot dead while trying to



This combination of photos provided by John Ritchie and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences shows Christopher Lee Cornell, left, and Nidal Malik Hasan. Acting on their own, in 2009, Hasan — who had been inspired by a radical Yemen-based preacher — killed 13 people at Fort Hood; in 2014, Cornell, from Ohio, was arrested and accused of plotting to attack the U.S. Capitol in support of Islamic State militants.

attack the event in Garland, Texas, that featured cartoon images of the Prophet Muhammad. One of the men, 31-year-old Elton Simpson, was arrested in 2010 after being the focus of a four-year terror investigation; investigators are trying to determine the extent of any terror-related

ties involving him or his accomplice, Nadir Soofi. At the White House, Press Secretary Josh Earnest said Wednesday that intelligence officials would be investigating Islamic State’s claim of responsibility for the incident.

“This is consistent with what has previously been

described as a lone wolf attack,” Earnest said. “Essentially you have two individuals that don’t appear to be part of a broader conspiracy, and identifying those individuals and keeping tabs on them is difficult work.”

Terrorism experts say the spread of social media

— and savvy use of it by extremist groups — has facilitated a new wave of relatively small-scale plots that are potentially easy to carry out and harder for law enforcement to anticipate.

While plots orchestrated by al-Qaida have historically involved grand plans designed to yield mass carnage — airline bombings, for instance, or attacks on transportation systems — the Islamic State group has endorsed less ambitious efforts that its leaders say can have the same terrorizing effect on Western society.

“If you can get your hands on a weapon, how is the state security apparatus supposed to find you?” said Will McCants, a fellow for the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington. “It’s attractive because it gets just as much attention as a small- to mid-size bomb.” A public forum like Twitter, with its millions of followers, means those who might otherwise have had limited exposure to terrorist ideologies now have ample access to what FBI Director James Comey has described as the “siren song” of the Islamic State group. Social media provides a venue for agitators to exhort each other to action, recruit followers for violence and scout locations for potential attacks. “The speed with which someone can find an active jihadist and connect with them over Twitter, let’s say, and start direct messaging with them — that speed happens much faster now,” McCants said.

This phenomenon poses a challenge for investigators as they sift through countless online communications. □

3 accused of operating fictitious police department

TAMI ABDOLLAH
DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three people, one an aide to California Attorney General Kamala Harris, were arrested after claiming to operate a police department with jurisdiction in 33 states and Mexico and that traces its roots back 3,000 years. Brandon Kiel, David Henry and Tonette Hayes were taken into custody last week on suspicion of impersonating officers as members of the Masonic

Fraternal Police Department, Los Angeles County sheriff’s officials said. Sheriff’s spokeswoman Nicole Nishida said detectives believe other people may be involved in the operation and deputies found ID cards, uniforms, and vehicles that appeared to look like law enforcement vehicles along with other official police equipment during their search of a home and office linked to the group.

It’s not clear whether any of the suspects attempted

to do any real police work. State records show Hayes is licensed as a security guard and has a firearm permit. She previously owned Masonic Security Service, while she and Henry run MIB Investigative Agency, though its state license is suspended.

Kiel, 31, worked as deputy director of community affairs at the California Department of Justice since July 2013. He has been on paid administrative leave from his \$67,416-a-year civil service job since Thursday.

Department spokesman David Beltran said the agency can’t comment on an ongoing personnel matter or criminal investigation. He said Kiel “worked with members of the public basically on issues and questions regarding the work of the department.”

Kiel, Henry, 46, and Hayes, 59, were arrested April 30 and released later that day, according to jail records. Telephone calls and text messages seeking comment were not immediately returned. □

Clinton challenges Bush on immigration as Republicans shift



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks on immigration at an event at Rancho High School in Las Vegas.

(AP Photo/John Locher)

STEVE PEOPLES

KEN THOMAS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton has injected new fire into the immigration debate with her call to allow people in the U.S. illegally to gain citizenship, challenging a centerpiece of Republican presidential prospect Jeb Bush's likely candidacy.

The elevated focus on immigration shines new light on the growing willingness of Republican presidential contenders — including past opponents of an immigration overhaul in Congress — to let such immigrants stay in the U.S. Such a position is regarded as “amnesty” by the Republicans’ conservative tea party wing, yet it is quietly becoming the majority view in a 2016 Republican presidential class eager to attract Hispanic voters.

Clinton is just as eager to protect the Democrats’ advantage with that key voting bloc. “This will be a defining issue in the election,” Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook told CNBC on Wednesday.

The day before, Clinton drew a sharp distinction between herself and the Republicans, like Bush, who support a pathway to legal status that stops short of citizenship.

“When they talk about legal status, that is code for second-class status,” Clinton charged.

It’s unclear how much the distinction between citizenship and legal status matters to Hispanic voters, a growing slice of the electorate nationally and an important factor in presidential swing states such as Florida, Colorado and Nevada. For many, the priority is simply to avoid deportation.

All of the Republicans are eager to avoid the fate of 2012 presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, who earned just 27 percent of the Hispanic vote after endorsing “self-deportation” as a viable policy.

The rhetoric of the Republicans candidates reflects broad support for allowing such immigrants to stay, but only Bush has made that point a focus of his message to voters.

As he does in most public appearances, Bush cited “11 million people that should come out from the shadows and receive earned legal status” at last week’s speech to the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. Such immigrants, he said, should be required to pay taxes, work and not receive government benefits.

Bush’s aides view Clinton’s comments as a direct criticism and a sign that Democrats are worried about losing Hispanic votes to him. Bush is fluent in Spanish and uses it in his campaign. His wife is from Mexico, and he has lived in Venezuela

and Puerto Rico. Bush wrote in his 2013 book “Immigration Wars” that withholding citizenship would be a suitable penalty for people who have entered the U.S. illegally. But Clint Bolick, his co-author and an adviser, said Bush would sign legislation that confers citizenship as long as he found other parts of the bill acceptable. On that point, “he’s open

to compromise,” Bolick told The Associated Press recently. Bush aides said Bolick’s comments accurately reflect Bush’s position.

Meanwhile Bush’s Republican rival Marco Rubio has emphasized his own Cuban-American heritage and his family’s humble roots. After failing to win support for his own legislation, which would have

offered citizenship to immigrants in the country illegally if they met certain conditions, the Florida senator still supports giving them the opportunity to apply for permanent residency as long as they have not broken other laws.

Sen. Rand Paul voted against Rubio’s bill but says the millions of people in the country illegally cannot all be sent home. □

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or

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marinated in fresh garlic, sautéed with green onions in white wine sauce au gratin and toast
or

Black Squid Ravioli with Lobster Meat
served with Alfredo sauce

Entrees

Beef Medallions and Shrimp
served with mashed potatoes, seasonal veggies and Port wine sauce
or

Pan fried Filet of Red Snapper

served with corn polenta “funchi”, spinach and lemon caper sauce
or

Pappardelle Lobster Bolognese

Homemade Pappardelle pasta served with lobster meat Bolognese
or

Curried Marinated Chicken and Potatoes

served with Jasmine Rice atop light spiced Chicken Liver
or

Seafood Risotto “Mami's Favorite”
served with clams, calamari rings, baby conch and fish atop shaved Parmesan cheese

Dessert

Banana Maple Syrup Fried French Toast
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Oil train derailment prompts evacuation in North Dakota town



This photo provided by Curt Benson shows smoke and fire coming from an oil train that derailed, Wednesday, May 6, 2015, in Heimdahl, N.D. Officials say ten tanker cars on the BNSF caught fire prompting the evacuation of Heimdahl where about three dozen people live. No injuries were reported.

(Curt Benson via AP)

BLAKE NICHOLSON
MATT BROWN
Associated Press
BISMARCK, North Dakota (AP) — An oil train derailed and caught fire early Wednesday in a rural area of central North Dakota, prompting the evacuation

of a nearby town where about three dozen people live. No injuries were reported in the accident, which happened about 7:30 a.m. near Heimdahl, about 115 miles (185 kilometers) northeast of Bismarck. The residents who left were stay-

ing with family and friends, Wells County Emergency Manager Tammy Roehrich said. Ten tanker cars on the BNSF Railway train caught fire, creating thick black smoke, state Emergency Services spokeswoman Cecily Fong

said.

"The engine and cars that aren't burning have been decoupled and moved to safety," she said.

Firefighters from four area communities responded to the fire, and regional hazardous materials teams from Grand Forks and Devils Lake were sent to the scene, Fong said. A team of 10 investigators from the Federal Railroad Administration was expected to arrive on the scene, said spokesman Kevin Thompson.

It was unclear how many cars were part of the train or how many derailed. There was no immediate word on the cause of the wreck or on the source of the oil the train was carrying. A statement from BNSF did not cite the source, and officials did not immediately return calls from The Associated Press.

Since 2006, the U.S. and Canada have seen at least 24 oil train accidents involving a fire, derailment

or significant amount of fuel spilled, according to federal accident records reviewed by the AP. The derailment Wednesday was the fifth this year and comes less than a week after the Department of Transportation announced a rule to toughen construction standards for tens of thousands of tank cars that haul oil and other flammable liquids.

FRA Administrator Sarah Feinberg said in a statement that the accident was "yet another reminder" of the need for changes that have been resisted by the oil industry, which says it will take years to get the unsafe tank cars replaced or off the tracks.

BNSF said the tank cars that derailed were constructed under a 2011 voluntary rail industry standard intended to make them tougher than older cars that were long known to pose a safety risk. But the new cars have proved equally dangerous. □

Greenpeace wants Shell's lawsuit over protest dismissed

DAN JOLING
Associated Press
ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Attorneys for Greenpeace Inc. say Royal Dutch Shell PLC has demonstrated no harm from environmental protesters who boarded a ship carrying a drill rig last month. In a written motion, Greenpeace asked U.S. District Court Judge Sharon Gleason to reject Shell's request for court-ordered, expanded safety zones around its Arctic drill fleet. Shell's lawsuit is seeking 1,000-meter safety zones around most of its fleet and 1,500 meters around drill vessels. The oil company says the expanded zones

would keep crews and protesters safe.

But expanded safety zones — larger than the Coast Guard's maximum 500 meters — would prevent Greenpeace from informing Americans about environmental problems, attorney Michael Moberly wrote.

"Shell's goal is no secret: above all it wants this Court to stop such protests — even ones that are entirely legal and peaceful — from occurring near its hired vessels and property, so that the American people cannot see another iconic image of Greenpeace USA right next to ships that Shell plans to use to drill for oil in a

fragile wilderness," Moberly wrote.

Shell Offshore Inc. sued on April 7, one day after six Greenpeace protesters boarded the Blue Marlin, a heavy-lift ship carrying a Transocean Ltd. semi-submersible drilling unit, the Polar Pioneer, as it crossed the Pacific. Shell plans to use the Polar Pioneer this summer to drill an exploratory well in the Chukchi Sea off Alaska's northwest coast. The protesters departed after six days.

If the judge creates safety zones through an injunction, Shell could seek contempt of court citations against Greenpeace protesters who trespass.

Conservation groups oppose Arctic offshore exploratory drilling, saying oil companies have not demonstrated that they can clean up a major spill in harsh conditions far from deep-water ports, major airports and other resources that could be of use in a spill.

At a hearing last week before Gleason, Shell officials said protesters had trespassed, putting themselves and crew members in danger on the high seas 750 miles northwest of Hawaii. The trespass, they said, will cost the company time and money for inspections of the drill rig to determine if damage or tampering oc-

curred.

But Moberly said Shell's broad request is based on a single "alleged trespass" and a series of "creatively strung-together quotations from websites" that are mostly about acts by Greenpeace entities that are not part of the lawsuit and that occurred years ago. Greenpeace Inc. said it should not be blamed for actions by Greenpeace International, the organization's attorneys said.

Shell attorney Jeffrey Lepo last week called that part of Greenpeace's "whack-a-mole jurisdictional policy" to dodge consequences by blaming another part of its network. □

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US Financial Front:

For some long-term unemployed, hope arises: A job audition

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Lewis was under more pressure than most new hires when he began a job in information technology last year in Monroe, Connecticut. Jobless for a year, he had eight weeks to persuade his employer to keep him and pay his salary.

A commercial mailer had offered Lewis something usually associated with actors or dancers: An audition.

It came through a nonprofit, Platform to Employment, that covered Lewis' pay through a program that targets a major scar of the Great Recession: The 2.6 million Americans who have been jobless for over six months. Many of them have long felt ignored by employers who assume their skills, drive or technological know-how have faded.

Platform to Employment provides job-search training before arranging subsidized auditions. This eliminates any risk to employers while giving the jobless an opening to prove themselves.

Evidence from companies that have used Platform have raised hopes for people who have endured prolonged unemployment. Some have impressed and surprised employers with their adaptability.

Lewis' employer, Kevin Kuligowski of Creative Mailing Solutions, discovered he was both proficient in mail-management software and knowledgeable about postal regulations — a rare combination. When the audition ended, Kuligowski hired Lewis.

The audition cost Kuligowski nothing. And he could

have cut Lewis loose afterward.

"Let me see what he can do" is how Kuligowski thought about the audition.

Lewis, 42, having built a nearly 20-year career before his audition, wrote a software application that saved the company a step in its packing process.

"I couldn't be happier," he said.

Since the recession officially ended nearly six years ago, economists have pointed with alarm to the plight of the long-term unemployed. Though their ranks have declined, there are still more people who have been jobless for longer than six months than during either of the previous two recessions, in 1991 and 2001.

On Friday, the government will issue its jobs report for April, which will likely show continued gains. Economists have forecast that employers added a solid 220,000 jobs, up from 126,000 in March. Studies find that those employers are less likely to interview candidates with long spells of unemployment, even when their qualifications are the same as for the short-term unemployed.

People who have sought work for 15 months or more are twice as likely to stop looking as to find jobs, Alan Krueger, a Princeton economist, has found. Some who have stopped looking have instead sought disability benefits or other government aid. And fewer Americans working tends to mean weaker economic growth.

Research has also found that prolonged unemployment worsens the health of many job seekers and

their families. One study, from economists Daniel Sullivan and Till Von Wachter, found that people who were unemployed for prolonged periods lost about 1.5 years of life expectancy compared with workers who weren't laid off.

About 27 percent of the short-term unemployed find jobs each month, gov-

port, Connecticut, has made just a tiny dent in the problem. But its approach is spreading, fueled by private donations and government grants. So far, it's placed 800 people in jobs in 17 cities, the group says. Nonprofits in Nevada, Indiana and Colorado have received federal money to set up identical systems.

employee will be kept on once a subsidized tryout ends.

The auditions contrast with the maddeningly impersonal job searches that most of the long-term unemployed endure. Online job boards and resume-screening software have made it harder for people to explain gaps in their work histories.



Bill Lewis, right, looks over a copy with colleague Rosie Rivera at CMS Mailing, in Monroe, Conn. Lewis was hired by CMS Mailing through Platform To Employment, a nonprofit program that offers to pay some long-term unemployed workers' salaries for their first 8 weeks on a new job, essentially eliminating the companies' risk of hiring of them.

(AP Photo/Jessica Hill)

ernment data show. For the long-term unemployed, only about 12 percent do. Joe Carbone, who launched the program in 2011, said roughly 80 percent of Platform's participants have landed auditions and that 90 percent of those have been offered permanent jobs. Since June, the program has been funded by \$3.5 million from the state of Connecticut to serve 500 long-term unemployed.

Platform, based in Bridge-

Research by Barbara Sianesi, an economist at the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London, has found that in Sweden, subsidized tryouts were the most successful among six methods for getting the long-term jobless back to work.

One reason, Sianesi says, is that auditions typically put people in jobs that companies need to fill, unlike jobs at public agencies that are sometimes created just to employ the jobless. This makes it more likely that an

Lewis initially sought a job as a warehouse worker and driver at Kuligowski's company. It was work he hadn't done before. But having noticed software skills on his resume, Kuligowski gave Lewis data files to process. Lewis never returned to the warehouse. Before receiving tryouts, Platform participants are tutored on LinkedIn and other social media, which might not have existed the last time they sought work. □

American Living:

A Grass-Roots Push in the Plains to Block a Pipeline's Path



Paula Antoine at a spirit camp set up by the Rosebud Sioux tribe near the planned route of Keystone XL in South Dakota. Even if the pipeline would not cross their property, tribal leaders say, it would pose a threat to drinking water and to ancestral homelands on the rolling plains and hilly riverbeds where they still hold treaty claims.

(Kristina Barker/The New York Times)

MITCH SMITH

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ROSEBUD INDIAN RESERVATION, S.D.

- In early 2010, the South Dakota government gave its blessing to a Canadian company seeking to move crude oil in a pipeline beneath the American heartland. Opposition had been minimal. "We didn't know about it," said Faith Spotted Eagle, the chairwoman of the Yankton Sioux Tribe's treaty council. "It was real swift

and quiet."

But in the years since, the proposed pipeline, known as Keystone XL, has become the object of a national debate, and Spotted Eagle has emerged as a leader of an increasingly organized coalition of Native Americans, landowners and grass-roots groups seeking to block its construction in this state and elsewhere.

So much time has elapsed that the 2010 construction

permit is now up for recertification, requiring a new round of hearings expected to pit South Dakota activists against pipeline supporters eager for construction to begin.

"These kinds of things in history have been more procedural in nature," said Mark Cooper, a spokesman for TransCanada, the company proposing Keystone XL. "But I think the new reality is that opponents of the pipeline will do

anything they can do to slow progress."

The process in South Dakota is playing out amid a much broader debate about Keystone XL, which would run 1,179 miles from Alberta's vast fields of oil sands, with the capacity to carry an estimated 800,000 barrels of oil per day to southern Nebraska, connecting to existing pipelines.

The project has stoked passions on both sides. Many Republicans in Congress and business groups see it as an economic necessity. Opponents fear the possibility of a leak, an influx of temporary workers into their communities, and the environmental consequences of petroleum use. Now, more than six years after it was proposed, the project remains hobbled by bureaucratic hurdles and legal challenges.

In Nebraska, long a hotbed of pipeline opposition, some landowners along the proposed route have gone to court to challenge eminent domain proceedings. On the federal level, President Barack Obama's permission is required because the pipeline would cross a national border. Obama has put off making a decision until the State Department finishes its review of the project, and he infuriated conservatives by vetoing legislation to approve it.

For years, South Dakota had been mostly an afterthought in the permit battle. But emboldened by the coming hearing and the success of protesters elsewhere, some South Dakotans say their state could be another barrier to construction.

That goal has frustrated many pipeline supporters in the state, including all three members of its congressional delegation, who say they are satisfied with TransCanada's assurances that the pipeline would be safe. "Keystone XL has allowed this conversation, this resistance against oil development, tar sands development, to take

place on a national scale, on a scale that hasn't happened before," said Dallas Goldtooth of the Indigenous Environmental Network, a group opposed to Keystone XL that works with tribal governments.

Among the most consistent and vocal opponents here have been Native Americans, by far the largest minority group in the state with about 9 percent of the population. They plan to challenge the route's recertification this summer when it goes before the state Public Utilities Commission in a hearing that begins July 27. They contend that the project has changed since 2010, and that the company should have to start the permitting process from scratch, rather than seek a renewal.

TransCanada says the 313-mile route through South Dakota would steer clear of reservations and tribally owned lands. But on the expansive Rosebud Indian Reservation, the path would be much closer than many are comfortable with. Even if the pipeline would not cross their property, tribal leaders say, it would pose a threat to drinking water and to ancestral homelands on the rolling plains and hilly riverbeds where they still hold treaty claims.

"We're so frustrated to the point of breaking," said Wayne Frederick, a Rosebud Sioux tribal council member.

So strong is their opposition that members have maintained a spirit camp on tribal property near the planned route. Despite the camp's rustic accommodations - a tent, a trailer and no running water - members have kept a vigil there for more than a year and have vowed to use the site as a base camp for protesters if construction ever begins. Several activists, including Frederick, have said they would risk arrest through civil disobedience.

Continued on page 27



Wayne Frederick, a Rosebud Sioux tribal council member, brands cattle on his ranch outside of Winner, S.D.

(Kristina Barker/The New York Times)

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Israel's Netanyahu completes formation of government

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu completed the formation of a new coalition late Wednesday, putting him at the helm of a hard-line government that appears to be set on a collision course with the U.S. and other key allies.

Netanyahu reached a deal with the nationalist Jewish Home party shortly before a midnight deadline, clinching a slim parliamentary majority and averting an embarrassing scenario that would have forced him from office. But with a government dominated by hard-liners that support increased West Bank settlement construction and oppose peace moves with the Palestinians, he could have a hard time rallying international support. Controlling just 61 of 120 parliamentary seats, the narrow coalition could also struggle to press forward with a domestic agenda.

After Netanyahu's Likud Party won March 17 elections with 30 seats, it seemed he would have a relatively easy time forming a coalition and serving a fourth term as prime minister. But the six-week negotiating process, which expired at midnight, turned out to be much more difficult than anticipated as rival coalition partners and members of the Likud jockeyed for influential Cabinet ministries.

"I am sure that nobody is surprised that the negotiations continued with all the factions and nobody is surprised it ended at the time it did," Netanyahu said late Wednesday.

He vowed to install "a strong and stable government for the people of

Israel" by next week, yet also hinted he would court additional partners in the near future.

"Sixty-one is a good number, and 61-plus is an even better number," he said. "But it starts at 61 and we will begin. We have a lot of work ahead of us."

The coalition talks stalled this week when Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman, a longtime partner of Netanyahu's, unexpectedly stepped down and announced his secular nationalist Yisrael Beitenu party was joining the opposition.

That left Netanyahu dependent on Jewish Home leader Naftali Bennett, a former aide who has a rocky relationship with Netanyahu. With Bennett driving a hard bargain, the talks stretched throughout the day and well into the night before Netanyahu called President Reuven Rivlin, as required by law, to announce the deal.

"I congratulate you on completing the formation of the government. I have received your letter of confirmation, and look forward to the convening of the

Knesset as soon as possible, to approve the government," Rivlin said.

Netanyahu had until midnight to speak to Rivlin.

new government to last long or accomplish much. Opposition leader Isaac Herzog, head of the centrist Zionist Union, called the

During the campaign, Netanyahu angered the White House when he said that he would not allow the establishment of a Palestin-



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is seen at Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem. Netanyahu completed the formation of a new coalition late Wednesday, putting him at the helm of a hard-line government that appears to be set on a collision course with the U.S. and other key allies.

(Ammar Awad/Pool photo via AP)

Otherwise, the president would have been required to ask another politician to try to form a government. Analysts do not expect the

coalition "a national failure government." He said it was "an embarrassing farce" and "the narrowest in Israel's history."

ian state on his watch. Although he has tried to backtrack, the White House has reacted with skepticism. □

Greece makes IMF payment amid signs of progress

ELENA BECATOROS
RAF CASERT

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Cash-strapped Greece scraped together a 200 million-euro (\$222 million) repayment to the International Monetary Fund on Wednesday amid signs its long-stalled bailout negotiations were making some progress.

The payment came as Greek government officials continued their whirlwind European tour and Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras spoke to French President Fran-

cois Hollande on how to push matters forward.

Greece has a much larger commitment of about 770 million euros to make to the IMF Tuesday.

All indications are it will struggle to make that payment as well as meet some pensions and salaries due later that week.

A potential Greek debt default could set off a chain reaction that jeopardizes its membership in Europe's joint currency and roils the global economy.

Hence the importance of reported progress in

Greece's talks with representatives from the European Commission, European Central Bank and IMF that could spill into Monday's meeting of the eurozone's 19 finance ministers.

Greece's left-wing government has been locked in negotiations with its creditors for the past three months over reforms required to unlock the remaining 7.2 billion-euro installment of its 240 billion-euro bailout.

In Brussels, technical talks that started last week were extended beyond

Wednesday amid hopes for a breakthrough.

A eurozone official, who asked not to be identified because the negotiations were ongoing, confirmed there was now visible progress after the talks had been bogged down for weeks.

Meanwhile, Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis was in Rome to discuss the issue with his Italian counterpart Pier Carlo Padoan, before heading to Madrid on Friday to meet his peer Luis de Guindos. □

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5 Ukrainian troops killed as cease-fire teeters on brink

PETER LEONARD
Associated Press
KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Five Ukrainian government troops battling separatist forces in the east have been killed in one of the worst single days of bloodshed since a cease-fire was declared in February, military officials said Wednesday. Army spokesman Andriy Lysenko said

four soldiers died when their armored vehicle hit a mine near the front line town of Avdiivka. Another was killed in an ambush at another location, Lysenko said. Skirmishes have reportedly been increasing in recent weeks along the line of contact between the warring sides. Some diplomatic effort was made Wednesday to reach a

more enduring settlement as Ukrainian and separatist representatives met for talks in the Belarusian capital of Minsk. The talks, under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, agreed to form so-called "subgroups" of rebel and Ukrainian representatives to discuss political, security, economic and humanitarian matters.

The political group is likely to have the most challenging task as it discusses what degree of autonomy the rebel regions could have while remaining part of Ukraine. "What was done today is a serious step toward political resolution; it will promote the halt of shooting," said Azamat Kulakhmetov, Russia's representative to

the talks. More than 6,000 people have died over a year of conflict fueled by an armed insurgency calling for the breakaway of Russian-speaking eastern Ukrainian regions. International cease-fire monitors say both parties are violating the peace agreement by deploying heavy weapons near the front-line. □

Germany: 4 arrests in alleged plot to attack Islamic targets



Andreas H., right with cap, who is suspected of being a member of the right-wing extremist group "Old School Society" is being taken into custody in Augsburg, Germany, Wednesday, May 6, 2015. German authorities conducted raids across the country, seizing explosives and arresting four people accused of founding a right-wing extremist group to attack mosques and housing for asylum seekers.

(Karl-Josef Hildenbrand/dpa via AP)

KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
Associated Press
BERLIN (AP) — German authorities conducted raids across the country on Wednesday, seizing explosives and arresting four people accused of founding a right-wing extremist group to attack mosques and housing for asylum seekers. Police arrested three men and a woman accused of leading the group during raids by some 250 investigators on homes in Saxony and four other states, the

federal prosecutor's office said in a statement. Prosecutors allege the four helped found the "Old-school Society" group and were planning to attack asylum-seeker housing, mosques and well-known members of the Islamic-extremist Salafist scene in Germany. The four arrested, identified only as Andreas H., 56, Markus W., 39, Denise Vanessa G., 22, and Olaf O., 47, in line with German privacy laws, are being held on terrorism charges and

are also accused of having procured explosives. The statement identified Andreas H. and Markus W. as the group's president and vice president. The North Rhine-Westphalia state interior ministry said Olaf O. was from the western city of Bochum and had been under observation since November as "a leading member of the OSS." "According to current investigations, it was the group's goal to conduct attacks in smaller groups inside Germany on well-known Salafists, mosques and asylum-seeker centers," the statement said. "For this purpose the four arrested procured explosives for possible terror attacks by the group." Inquiries made to an apparent cell phone number and email address for the group were not immediately returned. Prosecutors said they are still trying to determine whether the group had concrete attack plans and refused to comment beyond their written statement. There have been conflicts in recent years between far right extremists and Salafists

in North Rhine-Westphalia that have escalated into violent street fights. In 2013, authorities said they foiled a Salafist plot to assassinate a high-ranking member of a far-right party in the state. German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere said the Oldschool Society appeared to be a newly-formed group. "We are very glad that it hopefully has been nipped in the bud — everything else will be shown by the investigation," de Maiziere said. Rhineland-Palatinate interior minister Roger Lewentz, at the same news conference, held up what appeared to be the group's logo — a white skull on black background framed by bloody butcher's cleavers with lightning bolts resembling the runes of the Nazi SS. "The SS rune is in there — that's not for nothing," Lewentz said. Right-wing extremists have been a renewed focus for German intelligence agencies after it came to light that a neo-Nazi group calling itself National Socialist Underground, or NSU, allegedly killed eight Turks, a

Greek and a policewoman between 2000 and 2007. It is also believed to be behind two bombings and 15 bank robberies. De Maiziere said statistics released Wednesday showed a sharp increase of 22.9 percent in violent crimes by right-wing extremists in 2014 to 1,029 — including 175 attacks on refugee homes, three times the number in 2013. "Crimes that have a xenophobic, anti-Semitic and racist motive have especially increased," de Maiziere said in presenting the report. "Increasingly, asylum seekers and refugee homes are being targeted. This development is worrisome and must be stopped." The report suggested the rise could be linked to months of non-violent anti-Islam protests by a group calling itself Patriotic Europeans against the Islamization of the West, or PEGIDA. The group has been staging weekly rallies in the eastern city of Dresden and other German cities that at one point drew tens of thousands of supporters but have since dwindled to much smaller numbers. □



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Officials:

Germanwings co-pilot practiced descents hours before crash

JAMEY KEATEN
JOAN LOWY
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The co-pilot of Germanwings Flight 9525 appears to have practiced sending the jetliner into a deadly descent on another flight, just two hours before he intentionally crashed it into the French Alps, investigators said Wednesday. The revelation appeared to support the theory that the Germanwings crash was not only deliberate but premeditated. It came in a 30-page interim report from the French accident investigation agency BEA.

Authorities are still puzzling over why Andreas Lubitz, who had suffered from suicidal tendencies and depression in the past, locked the captain out of the cockpit on March 24 and sent the Airbus A320 hurtling into a mountain, killing all 150 people on board. Lubitz seemed to be toying



Rescue workers at the crash site of the Germanwings Airbus A320 near Le Vernet, France. Andreas Lubitz, the co-pilot suspected of deliberately flying the airliner into the French Alps, appears to have rehearsed the plane's fatal dive during an earlier flight on the day of the crash, the French authorities said in a preliminary report published on May 6, 2015.

(Yves Malenfer/French IM via The New York Times)

with the airplane's settings on the earlier flight from Duesseldorf to Barcelona, programming it for a sharp descent multiple times in a 4 1/2-minute period while the pilot was out of the cockpit before resetting the controls, the report said. Unlike the later flight, he did not lock the pilot out of the

cockpit.

The plane's "selected altitude" changed repeatedly and several times was set as low as 100 feet (30 meters) above sea level. The report says Lubitz also put the engines on idle, which gives the plane the ability to quickly descend.

On the doomed flight from

Barcelona to Duesseldorf, Lubitz also set a 100-foot altitude before the plane crashed into the Alps.

Aviation experts say it would be highly unusual for a pilot to repeatedly set a plane for such a low altitude for no apparent reason. The report said Lubitz did so while air traffic controllers were asking him to bring the airplane down gradually from 35,000 feet to 21,000 feet for its descent to Barcelona.

A BEA chart showed the plane didn't actually descend sharply while Lubitz was repeatedly adjusting the settings, so the passengers and crew might not have noticed any change. "The captain didn't realize at all, because the co-pilot's tests during the outgo-

ing flight took place during a normal, preprogrammed descent and it never had an impact on the plane's trajectory," said Remi Jouty, the director of BEA.

Aviation experts said the BEA findings were clearly unusual.

Lubitz changed the setting in the "altitude select" window, although the airplane didn't move in response to the inputs, said aviation safety expert John Cox, president of Safety Operating Systems.

"It's clear that it's a very unusual act," Cox said. "I've never seen it done, and it is the same methodology he used to fly the airplane into the ground. Was he practicing? I think that certainly is a possibility." □

More migrants rescued; EU eyes seizing boats

FRANK JORDANS
NICOLE WINFIELD
CARA ANNA

Associated Press
CATANIA, Sicily (AP) — Nearly 100 migrants who reported being at sea for 12 days arrived in Sicily on Wednesday as diplomats mulled a draft U.N. resolution authorizing an EU mission to seize the smugglers' boats that are fueling the Mediterranean migrant crisis.

The 98 migrants, a third of them women and three of them pregnant, were among hundreds of would-be refugees who arrived in Italian ports Wednesday after being rescued from overcrowded dinghies and fishing boats in recent days. Most have set

off from Libya, where human traffickers charging migrants around \$1,000 apiece are operating with near-impunity amid the country's political chaos.

As the crisis deepened, diplomatic efforts to stem the tide appeared to kick into higher gear. The EU's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, is due to brief the Security Council on Monday about the crisis and about EU proposals to target the traffickers. A draft U.N. resolution would authorize an EU mission for one year to seize boats where there's credible evidence they're being used by smugglers, a council diplomat said Wednesday in New York. The resolution, which

would be militarily enforceable, would cover the high seas, Libya's territorial waters and coast, and mission members could also go on land. Some European Union leaders had proposed a U.N.-blessed operation to destroy smugglers' boats before they are used. The idea, however, has raised a host of legal concerns and Russia — which has veto power at the Security Council — has said it would oppose any ship-destroying resolution.

"Apprehending human traffickers and actually arresting those vessels is one thing, but destroying them would be going too far," said Russia's ambassador to the EU, Vladimir Chizhov. □

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Argentine medical teams debate death of late prosecutor

The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Two medical teams are meeting in Argentina's capital in an extraordinary session aimed at concluding whether the head prosecutor investigating the country's worst terrorist attack killed himself or was slain by another person. The meeting began Wednesday after months of debate about how Alberto Nisman died Jan. 18, when he was found in his bathroom with a bullet in his head. The shot

that destroyed Nisman's skull was fired with a gun that was loaned to him by aide Diego Lagomarsino, a computer technician who said the prosecutor asked for the weapon because he feared for his and his daughters' lives. There is no doubt that the gun was the weapon that killed the prosecutor. But the lead investigator says authorities have not determined whether Nisman took his own life or was killed by someone else.

Sandra Arroyo Salgado, the late prosecutor's ex-wife, hired a forensic team that determined Nisman was slain by another person. The meeting of medical officials aims to sort through that and other discrepancies. Days before he died, Nisman accused President Cristina Fernandez of helping Iranian officials cover up their alleged role in the 1994 unsolved bombing of a Jewish community center. A federal judge has thrown out the case, while Fernandez has denied the

allegations against her and Iran has long denied any role in the bombing. Conspiracy theories have flourished around the case. While some politicians and analysts believe that Nisman killed himself because he felt that his claims against the president lacked proof, others say he was murdered because he was a threat to the Argentine and Iranian governments.

Fernandez has suggested Nisman was killed by rogue secret service agents and

cast suspicions on Antonio "Jaime" Stiuso, but she has not provided any evidence to support that. She also said that Stiuso fed false information to Nisman to destabilize her government and had a hand in writing the late prosecutor's 289-page report detailing the accusations against her.

"The certainties with this case have disappeared," said Gerardo Young, author of "Codigo Stiuso" (The Stiuso Code), which is based on the life of the former intelligence agent. □

Venezuelan president's bout with thrown mango inspires game

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Two Venezuelans who emigrated to escape the country's economic woes are drawing laughs with a mobile game mocking President Nicolas Maduro for his decision to give a new home to a woman who threw a mango at him seeking attention for her plea to get housing. The goal of "Maduro Mango Attack" is to accumulate points by throwing tropical fruit at the socialist leader as he scurries across the screen to a techno beat interspersed with calls by a prominent opposition leader to unleash their fury. Players are also rewarded for pelting National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello strutting with a bag

full of dollar bills and for hitting the late President Hugo Chavez incarnated by a small bird in a red beret, an allusion to Maduro's remarks on the campaign trail that Chavez had visited him in fluttering form. (AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)



Gabriel Diaz plays "Maduro Mango Attack" in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Players are also rewarded for pelting National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello strutting with a bag full of dollar bills and for hitting the late President Hugo Chavez incarnated by a small bird in a red beret, an allusion to Maduro's remarks on the campaign trail that Chavez had visited him in fluttering form.

(AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)

full of dollar bills and for hitting the late President Hugo

Chavez incarnated by a small bird in a red beret

— an allusion to Maduro's remarks on the campaign

trail that Chavez had visited him in fluttering form.

In the week since the game's debut, more than 10,000 people have downloaded the free app, according to Google Play, the online store for gaming apps.

The game was inspired by an incident last month in which a woman hurled a mango at Maduro's head as he drove a bus through a crowd of supporters. Hours later on national TV, Maduro displayed the mango where Marleny Olivo had scrawled her phone number and then he granted her plea for a new home.

Shoes, pies and eggs remain the most popular objects to throw at scorned politicians the world over. □

Puerto Rico rejects smoking marijuana for medicinal purposes

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Smoking marijuana for medicinal purposes will not be allowed in Puerto Rico, but cannabis derivatives could be consumed in other ways, government officials said this week as they provided more details on the governor's weekend executive order on cannabis use. Justice Secretary Cesar Miranda told The Associated Press that the government would allow patients access to

cannabis derivatives that would be inhaled or used orally, such as potions or pills. "Smoking marijuana is not being contemplated as part of a medical treatment," he said. Advocates say marijuana helps with conditions like chronic pain, glaucoma, anxiety, and nausea from chemotherapy or drugs to combat HIV.

Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla issued an order late Sunday directing the island's health department to authorize the use of some or all controlled

substances or derivatives of the cannabis plant for medical use. Health Secretary Ana Rius has three months to submit a report that details how the order will be implemented, the impact it will have and what future steps could be taken.

It is unclear whether Garcia supports smoking pot to treat illnesses. He did not specify in his executive order what type of medical marijuana uses he supports, and his office said he had no plans to comment on the issue.

Rius told reporters Tuesday that smoking marijuana regardless of its purpose would still be considered a crime. The general use of medical marijuana is legal in 23 U.S. states, and a group of U.S. legislators is seeking to remove federal prohibitions on it. In the Caribbean, Jamaica recently passed a law that partially decriminalizes the possession of small amounts of pot and paves the way for a legal medical marijuana sector.

Of the 23 states permitting medicinal uses of marijuana,

only New York bars people from smoking pot for such purposes, said Amanda Reiman at the New York-based Drug Policy Alliance, which supports marijuana legalization.

"A lot of patients prefer to inhale the cannabis than take it orally," she said in a phone interview. "If they have to take it only through a pill, it can be very difficult to tell what the right dose is ... It's pretty short-sighted to take away that method that most patients rely on to figure out how cannabis affects them." □



Loyal Visitors Honored at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Min-

ister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-to-35 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Paul and Mrs. Nancy Shrager and Mr. Alan and Mrs. Linda Balcomb as Ambassadors of Goodwill, and Mr. Steven and Mrs. Patricia Plourde and Mr.

John and Mrs. Bernadette Racioppi as Distinguished Visitors. All the honorees are loyal members of the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches, the restaurants and the casinos. They say Aruba feels like a second

home where the people are like a family to them, and the Divi Phoenix is like their 'home away from home.' The certificates were presented by Mr. Ricardo Croes representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Avril representing the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort. Congratulations! □

Still searching: Family Heartbroken Over Lost Parrot

ALTO VISTA – Knowing that a large grey bird with red tail feathers is not easy to miss, family and friends continue to count on kind strangers in a search for a lost pet. Few leads were received on an African grey parrot that went missing two weeks ago in the neighborhood of Alto Vista.

The parrot, easily recognizable, is nervous with people he doesn't know, but will



respond with recognizable calls and English-language phrases. He most often calls out the names of family members. He has been a pet with the same family for many years, since he was brought home after being hatched by local breeders. He is accustomed to a specialized diet, including daily, fresh fruit and vegetables, a steady supply of toys and moving around in a large cage with a fellow parrot friend, to whom he is bonded.

Definite, positive identification can be made by an examination of the band number on the leg. If you have come in recent possession of an African grey parrot, or know someone who has, please reach out. He has spent all his entire life not only with one family, but also another parrot, both of who are greatly missing him. Please call, with any news to Cel: 592-4699 or 592-1670. A reward will be gratefully provided! □



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Aruba Celebrates 'Cinco de Mayo' at Iguana Cantina!



PALM BEACH - Tourist and locals gathered together for a festive evening at Iguana Cantina on Tuesday night to celebrate 'Cinco de Mayo!' Live Mariachi along with food and drink specials created the perfect atmosphere in the colorful and vibrant restaurant. Manager Luis Angel says that they hope to recreate the ambience this weekend when they host a special Mother's Day dinner, three courses per person priced at less than Afl 60 with free Sangria for all ladies. Fabuloso! □



Chicago Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane celebrates after scoring on Minnesota Wild goalie Devan Dubnyk during the first period of Game 3 in the second round of the NHL Stanley Cup hockey playoffs in St. Paul, Minn., Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

Associated Press

Blackhawks top Wild 1-0 to take 3-0 lead

The Associated Press
Patrick Kane scored in the first period for Chicago, and Corey Crawford and the Blackhawks made the superstar's goal stand up for a 1-0 win over the Minnesota Wild on Tuesday. Chicago took a commanding 3-0 lead in the Western Conference semi-final series. Game 4 is in Minnesota again on Thursday.

Kane has six goals and five assists in nine playoff games, bouncing back just fine from the broken collarbone that kept him out of the last quarter of the regular season.

Crawford made 30 saves, giving him 90 on 94 shots in the three games. Stifled time after time on chance after chance, the Wild have scored just once over their last 150-plus minutes on the ice.

Continued on Page 21

DEFLATE-GATE



Long-awaited investigation implicates Pats, Tom Brady

In this Jan. 18, 2015, file photo, New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady holds a football during warm ups before the NFL football AFC Championship game against the Indianapolis Colts in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press
Page 19

Mclroy, Spieth linked closer now at Players Championship

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla.

(AP) — Rory Mclroy remembers a 19-year-old Texan who was polished for his age and didn't appear to have a glaring weakness in his game. That was the Texas Open two years ago, the first time he played with Jordan Spieth.

They are together again in The Players Championship under different circumstances.

There is talk of a new rivalry in golf between Mclroy and Spieth, partly because of age, mainly because of recent results.

Mclroy is No. 1 in the world on the strength of winning two of the last three majors and a pair of World Golf Championships. He already has two wins this year. Spieth won that other major — a wire-to-wire victory in the Masters — and moved up to No. 2. He also has two victories this year.

The PGA Tour didn't let the opportunity pass to put them together for two rounds in its premier championship, which starts Thursday at the TPC Sawgrass.

Even if it's a budding rivalry, it's one-sided. Spieth would be the first to concede that. "He is as far ahead of me as I am with the next eight guys," Spieth said, referring to the gap between No. 1 and No. 2 in the world ranking. "So with that being



In this April 11, 2014, file photo, Jordan Spieth, left, shakes hands with Rory Mclroy, of Northern Ireland, on the 18th green following the second round of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga. The match that didn't happen in San Francisco will be available in stroke play at The Players Championship this week. Match Play winner Rory Mclroy, ranked No. 1, and Masters champion Jordan Spieth, ranked No. 2, are in the same group for the opening two rounds.

Associated Press

said, it's kind of anybody's game to get up and make it interesting with him. I just happen to be the one that occupies No. 2 right now." Mclroy responded to all the hype over Spieth and his green jacket by winning the Match Play Championship last week in San Francisco. He provided another answer to the chatter about a rivalry by practically yawning.

"Last year it was Rickie (Fowler). This year it's Jordan, might be someone

else, could have been Tiger," Mclroy said. "There's been four or five rivalries over the past year. So it doesn't really do anything for me."

He then borrowed a line that Jack Nicklaus once told Tiger Woods. Both had a revolving door of rivals over the years.

"As long as I'm one of them, the other can be whoever it is," Mclroy said. "I don't mind."

He would appear to be the one to chase for years,

though Mclroy is prone to go into mini-slumps. Think back to one year ago at The Players Championship, when Woods was still No. 1 in the world. Now he's at No. 125 from not playing well and not playing much because of injuries.

Adam Scott, Henrik Stenson, Bubba Watson and Matt Kuchar were next in line, and all of them had a mathematical chance to be No. 1 at The Players. Mclroy was No. 11. Two weeks later, he won the BMW PGA

Championship and was on his way. But if there is an advantage this week, it might go to Spieth. He was tied for the lead going into the final round in his Players Championship debut and watched Martin Kaymer put on a clinic — and make an unlikely par putt on the island green at No. 17 — to win at Sawgrass.

Mclroy didn't make a cut at The Players until his fourth try. He tied for sixth last year after closing with a 66, though he was never in contention.

"I heard something that it sort of tests everyone and favors no one," Mclroy said of the Pete Dye design.

He has adopted a conservative style the past two years and is making progress with a pair of top-10 finishes.

"It's always hard for me when I can't get driver in my hand, because I feel like when I get driver in my hand I can give myself an advantage over the rest of the field," Mclroy said.

Spieth had a share of the 54-hole lead in back-to-back big events last year — the Masters and The Players — and didn't convert either. The Masters didn't bother him nearly as much as Sawgrass because he felt Bubba Watson beat him in Augusta, and equipped with the experience, he failed to use it at The Players. □



This is a Monday, Aug. 17, 2009, file photo of Spain's Marta Dominguez as she celebrates winning the gold medal in the Women's 3000m Steeplechase at the World Athletics Championships in Berlin.

Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland
(AP) — Former world champion runner Marta Domin-

guez will face accusations of blood doping at a two-day hearing at the Court of

CAS sets 2-day hearing in Marta Dominguez doping case

Arbitration for Sport.

CAS will hear appeals by the IAAF and World Anti-Doping Agency on June 24-25.

The appeals challenge the Spanish athletics federation's decision last year to clear Dominguez of irregularities in her biological passport, which identifies possible doping by changes in blood values even if an athlete does not test positive.

The IAAF seeks a four-year ban, and WADA wants a ban of two-to-four years,

the court said Tuesday.

It is unclear if Dominguez could be stripped of her 3,000-meter steeplechase title at the 2009 world championships in Berlin. The Spanish runner also won silver in the event at the 2010 European championships. The World Anti-Doping Agency declined to specify details, citing its policy of not commenting on active cases.

Dominguez won her world title by beating Yulia Zaripova, the 2011 world champion and 2012 Olympic gold

medalist from Russia who is also the subject of an IAAF appeal to CAS in a blood-doping case. The IAAF is challenging the selective timing of Zaripova's ban by the Russian athletic federation this year, which included the date of her Olympic victory in London but not her world title.

Dominguez, now 39, previously specialized in the 5,000 meters, winning two European titles and two worlds silver medals.

In 2011, she won election to a seat in Spain's senate. □



NFL finds Patriots employees probably deflated balls



In this Jan. 22, 2015, file photo, New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady speaks at a news conference about the NFL investigation into deflated footballs, in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press

EDDIE PELLIS AP National Writer

An NFL investigation released Wednesday concluded that New England Patriots employees probably deflated footballs used in the AFC Championship and that quarterback Tom Brady was "at least generally aware" of the rules violations. The NFL began investigating what's now known as "Deflategate" after the Patriots defeated the Colts 45-7 on Jan. 18. The Colts complained that several footballs were under-inflated and the NFL confirmed that 11 of the 12 footballs were under the limit. The investigation started as the Patriots were preparing for the Super Bowl — which they won two weeks later. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said Troy Vincent, the league's executive vice president of football operations, would review the 243-page report on attorney Ted Wells' investigation and consider what steps to take next.

"We will continue our efforts vigorously to protect the integrity of the game and promote fair play at all times," Goodell said. The NFL requires balls to be inflated between 12.5 and 13.5 pounds per square inch, and each team is responsible for the balls it uses on offense. Footballs with less pressure can be easier to grip and catch. Some quarterbacks prefer footballs that have less air. Brady said he prefers footballs inflated to 12.5 pounds per square inch. On many occasions, Brady said he never asked for balls to be deflated outside of the rules. But the NFL report concluded "it was more than probable than not" that Jim McNally, the officials' locker room attendant, and John Jastremski, an equipment assistant for the Patriots, were involved in "a deliberate effort to release air" from the footballs in the moments before kickoff of the AFC

title game - and after they were examined by the referee.

The report cites evidence that McNally took the game balls into a bathroom adjacent to the field at Gillette Stadium, and stayed there for about 100 seconds - "an amount of time sufficient to deflate thirteen footballs using a needle."

Other evidence included referee Walt Anderson's inability to locate the previously approved footballs at the start of the game - the first time that had happened to him in 19 years. The report includes salty

text messages between McNally and Jastremski - sent in October and January - that imply Brady was requesting footballs deflated below 12.5 pounds per square inch. They also imply that Brady had previously been upset with the quality of the game balls. The texts described requests from McNally for shoes and signed footballs from Brady in exchange for deflating the balls.

"Remember to put a couple sweet pig skins ready for tom to sign," one said. "Nice throw in some kicks and make it real special," another said.

The report says there's no evidence that owner Robert Kraft, coach Bill Belichick or anyone on the coaching staff knew about the scheme. Kraft, who strongly defended his team and said the NFL would owe the Patriots an apology if the investigation turned up no culpable evidence, called the conclusion "incomprehensible."

But, he said the Patriots would accept the findings of the report "and take the appropriate actions based on those findings as well as any discipline levied by the league." □

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NL Capsules

Marlon Byrd drives in 4, Reds top Pirates 7-1

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Marlon Byrd homered and drove in four runs, Todd Frazier belted his National League-leading ninth home run and Cincinnati defeated Pittsburgh.

Byrd hit a two-run shot in the third inning off Jeff Locke (2-2) and added two-run double in the ninth. Frazier finished 2 for 5 for the Reds, unbeaten against the Pirates this season.

Cincinnati rookie Michael Lorenzen (1-1) worked six-plus innings for his first major league victory. He gave up three hits, including Starling Marte's homer. The Pirates have lost four straight and six of seven.

BRAVES 9, PHILLIES 0

ATLANTA (AP) — Shelby Miller threw his third career shutout, Freddie Freeman and Kelly Johnson homered to spoil Chad Billingsley's first start in more than two years, and Atlanta routed Philadelphia.

Miller (4-1) allowed three hits and one walk with eight strikeouts. He has not allowed more than two runs in any of his six starts. Billingsley (0-1) gave up six runs, five earned, in five innings. The right-hander fought back from two major operations on his pitching arm to make his first start since April 15, 2013, for the Dodgers against San Diego.

Freeman had three hits, including a two-run homer. Johnson, who drove in four runs, hit a three-run shot.

MARLINS 2, NATIONALS 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mat Latos and four relievers combined on a three-hitter, and Miami beat Stephen Strasburg and the Washington Nationals.

Strasburg (2-3) left for a pinch hitter in the third inning after allowing two runs and throwing 64 pitches. His departure might have been due to an injury, because one inning earlier the right-hander grimaced after throwing a pitch and was visited by the team trainer, pitching coach Steve McCatty and man-



Cincinnati Reds' Marlon Byrd (9) rounds second past Pittsburgh Pirates second baseman Neil Walker (18) after hitting a two-run-home run off Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jeff Locke in the second inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

Associated Press Cincinnati Reds' Marlon Byrd (9) rounds second past Pittsburgh Pirates second baseman Neil Walker (18) after hitting a two-run-home run off Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jeff Locke in the second inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

Associated Press

ager Matt Williams.

Strasburg stayed in the game, but not for long. He was scheduled to lead off the third and put on a batting helmet, but was told to take a seat in the dugout. Strasburg gave up four hits, walked two and hit a batter with a pitch in his shortest outing since a two-inning stint against Miami on Aug. 28, 2013.

Latos (1-3) allowed one run and two hits over 6 1-3 innings to earn his first win with Miami.

GIANTS 6, PADRES 0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Ryan Vogelsong pitched seven innings of three-hit ball, Joe Panik homered and San Francisco won its fifth consecutive game by beating San Diego.

The Giants threw their third shutout in a row and second against the Padres, who came to town after scoring 26 runs in a three-game sweep of Colorado last weekend. San Diego has gone 20 innings without scoring.

Brandon Crawford had three hits and an RBI for the Giants, who won their eighth straight at home and are a game over .500 (14-13) for the first time since April 10, the begin-

ning of an eight-game losing streak.

Vogelsong (1-2) struck out four in his longest outing of the season. George Kontos and Yusmeiro Petit com-

pleted the four-hitter.

Andrew Cashner (1-5) remained winless in eight games, four starts, in San Francisco.

CARDINALS 7, CUBS 4

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pinch-hitter Mark Reynolds doubled off the center-field wall to snap a tie in the sixth inning, and St. Louis rallied from three runs down to beat Chicago for its eighth straight victory.

Matt Carpenter tied the game with a three-run homer off Cubs starter Kyle Hendricks in the fifth and finished with four RBIs. Kolten Wong added an RBI in the seventh on an infield single, his third hit of the night.

Mitch Harris (1-0), a 29-year-old rookie and former Navy lieutenant, worked a scoreless sixth for his first career victory. Trevor Rosenthal earned his ninth save in 10 chances.

The Cardinals' major league-best 20-6 start is a franchise best since 1900.

Edwin Jackson (1-1) took the loss. Anthony Rizzo had three hits but grounded out with the bases loaded against Miguel Socolovich to end the eighth. The Cubs have lost a season-worst four straight. □

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Grizzlies and Hawks win to square both series at 1-1



Memphis Grizzlies guard Mike Conley, center, is defended by Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green (23), guard Klay Thompson, second from left, and guard Shaun Livingston (34) during the first half of Game 2 in a second-round NBA playoff basketball series in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Mike Conley returned just eight days after having facial surgery to score 22 points, and Memphis used a smothering defensive effort to beat Golden State 97-90 on Tuesday night, evening the Western Conference semifinals 1-1. Wearing a clear mask to protect his swollen face and red left eye, Conley stole the spotlight from newly minted MVP Stephen

Curry. He made his first four shots to get the Grizzlies going, and his teammates did the rest on defense. Zach Randolph had 20 points and seven rebounds, and Marc Gasol and Courtney Lee scored 15 points each to help Memphis end Golden State's 21-game home-winning streak. Game 3 is Saturday in Memphis. Conley added three assists in 27 minutes. Curry had 19 points, six as-

sists and five rebounds but had little help from backcourtmate Klay Thompson, who was smothered by Tony Allen's aggressive play. The Warriors had 20 turnovers and shot just 41.9 percent, including 23.1 percent from 3-point range. The Grizzlies had 13 steals. **HAWKS 106, WIZARDS 90 ATLANTA (AP)** — DeMarre Carroll scored 22 points, Kyle Korver bounced back from a miserable first half

Associated Press

NHL Capsules

Continued from Page 17

The Blackhawks last led a playoff series 3-0 in the Western Conference finals against San Jose in 2010, when they went on to win the Stanley Cup.

FLAMES 4, DUCKS 3, OT CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Mikael Backlund scored on a delayed penalty call in overtime.

Johnny Gaudreau scored with 19.5 seconds left in the third period to tie the game for the Flames, who had an apparent goal disallowed minutes earlier.

Anaheim leads the second-round Western Conference series 2-1, with Game 4 on Friday night at the Saddledome.

Joe Colborne had a short-handed goal for Calgary, while Brandon Bollig also connected. But Sam Ben-



Anaheim Ducks' Ryan Kesler (17) and Calgary Flames' Sam Bennett (63) battle for the puck during the first period of Game 3 in the second round of the NHL Stanley Cup hockey playoffs, Tuesday, May 5, 2015, in Calgary, Alberta.

Associated Press

nett's close-in shot, which seemed to barely sneak over the goal line, was disallowed in the third period after a video review.

Patrick Maroon, Corey Perry and Matt Beleskey scored for the Ducks in their first loss in these playoffs after they swept Winnipeg.

and the top-seeded Atlanta Hawks held off the Washington Wizards 106-90 on Tuesday night, taking advantage of John Wall's absence to even the Eastern Conference semifinals at one game apiece. Wall, who finished out the series opener with an injured left hand, was a surprising scratch just before Game 2, shortly after the Wizards insisted he would play. Ramon Sessions did

an admirable job filling in, leading his team with 21 points, but Washington lost for the first time in these playoffs. Korver went 1-for-7 from the 3-point line in the first half but kept firing away. He made three 3s after the break, including one from the corner with just under 3 minutes remaining that gave the Hawks a 98-88 lead after Washington had hit consecutive jumpers.

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SUN & HOL 3:00 | 4:00 | 6:00 | 7:05 | 9:00

2D VERSION

MON-THURS 5:00 | 8:05 | 9:20
FRI 5:00 | 8:05 | 9:20 | 11:10
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FRI 3:50 | 6:20 | 9:20
SAT 3:20 | 6:20 | 9:20
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PAUL BLART MALL COP 2

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MON-THURS 4:40 | 6:50 | 9:10
FRI 4:40 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:20
SAT 2:30 | 4:40 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:20
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:40 | 6:50 | 9:10

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Kyrgios knocks Federer out of 2nd round at Madrid Open

HAROLD HECKLE

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Top-seeded Roger Federer made an early exit from the Madrid Open on Wednesday after a second-round defeat to Nick Kyrgios of Australia. The 20-year-old from Canberra ended Federer's hopes of a fourth title at the Spanish tournament by rallying for a closely fought 6-7 (2), 7-6 (5), 7-6 (12) victory.

Kyrgios came into the tournament after being beaten in Sunday's final of the Estoril Open by Richard Gasquet, and also losing his status as the ATP's highest-ranked teenager by turning 20.

Federer said his problem was that "I couldn't return his first serve." Federer described his game as "just a horrible performance on the return." Kyrgios said he had been excited at the prospect of playing his childhood hero.

"Last night it was a bit tough to get some sleep knowing that I was going out there," he said. "I've been playing well recently on the clay, so I knew I had a good chance to go out there and do well. I stuck to my game and served well and I got the win."

Earlier, Rafael Nadal broke



Serena Williams from U.S. celebrates a point on her way to win a Madrid Open tennis tournament match against Victoria Azarenka from Belarus in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

Associated Press

Steve Johnson's serve three times and advanced to the third round by defeating the American 6-4, 6-3.

In the women's tournament, Victoria Azarenka squandered triple match point, double-faulting on the last one, and Serena Williams rallied to reach the quarterfinals with a 7-6 (5), 3-6, 7-6 (1).

Trying to serve out the match at 6-5 in the deciding set, Azarenka double-faulted on the final three points to gift Williams the

game. Williams then dominated the tiebreaker and improved her head-to-head record against Azarenka to 15-3. Azarenka is 0-9 against top-ranked players.

"She almost hit an ace. She missed it by not even three centimeters. I thought, 'Wow,'" Williams said of her rival's serve at 40-0. "This is definitely an escape. I've had some other escapes, but I don't think I've been down love-40 on someone's serve before."

After an injury-affected season last year, Azarenka, a two-time finalist, was unseeded in Madrid for the first time.

"She's absolutely on her way back," Williams said of Azarenka's return to form. "It's so good to see a Grand Slam champion like her playing so well."

Defending champion Maria Sharapova advanced to the quarterfinals by beating Caroline Garcia of France 6-2, 4-6, 7-5.

The third-seeded Russian,

who is making her sixth appearance at the Madrid tournament, broke her opponent's serve five times but was broken three times.

"It came down to a few points in the third set," Sharapova said.

"She was going for it. I could have had a higher percentage of first serves in, but even on good second serves she stepped in and hit really good shots and there was not much I could do until she started making a few errors."

Also, in the women's half of the championship, fourth-seeded Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic defeated Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 6-4 and fifth-seeded Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark beat Agnieszka Radwanska 6-3, 6-2. Spain's 10th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro upset seventh-seeded Ana Ivanovic 7-5, 1-6, 6-4 and Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu beat Barbora Strycova 6-4, 6-4. Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic beat Roberta Vinci of Italy 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-0.

Third-seeded Nadal extended his record of wins on clay against American opposition to 10-0 by beating the 25-year-old from Redondo Beach, California

Pineda pitches Yankees past Blue Jays 6-3

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Mark Teixeira hit a two-run homer, Michael Pineda matched his career high with eight shutout innings and the New York Yankees beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-3 on Tuesday night.

Jacoby Ellsbury had three hits, stole two bases and scored twice as the AL East leaders improved to 11-4 away from home, the best road record in the league. Alex Rodriguez hit an early two-run double.

New York has gone 14-4 since a 3-6 start.

Pineda (4-0) allowed five hits and struck out six to win his fourth straight road start, a streak that began in Boston last September.



New York Yankees starting pitcher Michael Pineda throws against the Toronto Blue Jays during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, May 5, 2015, in Toronto.

Associated Press

The right-hander has road wins over all four division

opponents in that span. Andrew Miller got one out

for his 11th save, stranding runners at first and second. Teixeira's 373rd home run tied teammate Carlos Beltran for fourth-most by a switch-hitter.

Marco Estrada (1-1) yielded five runs, four earned, over 4 2-3 innings in his first start of the season.

RED SOX 2, RAYS 0

BOSTON (AP) — Mookie Betts homered to lead off the sixth inning — the first hit off Rays starter Drew Smyly — and added another in the eighth to lead Boston over Tampa Bay.

On the night the Red Sox honored their 1975 AL championship team, Betts hit two solo shots over the Green Monster that Carlton Fisk cleared in the

World Series 40 years ago. It was Betts' first career multihomer game.

The Red Sox had lost four straight and nine of 12 to fall into last place in the AL East.

Rick Porcello (3-2) pitched seven innings and scattered eight hits. Koji Uehara earned his fifth save.

Smyly (0-1) left trailing 1-0 despite allowing only two hits.

METS 3, ORIOLES 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Bartolo Colon became the first pitcher in at least 100 years to beat the same opponent with seven different teams, stopping Baltimore once again and leading the New York Mets past the Orioles. □

Googling on mobile devices surpasses PCs in U.S. for 1st time

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Google's influential search engine has hit a tipping point in technology's shift to smartphones. More search requests are now being made on mobile devices than on personal computers in the U.S. and many other parts of the world.

The milestone announced at a digital advertising conference Tuesday serves as another reminder of how dramatically online behavior has changed since 2007. That's when Apple released the first iPhone, leading to a wave of similar devices that have made it easier for people to stay connected to the Internet wherever they go.

The upheaval has rocked PC makers and other tech companies such as Microsoft with businesses tied to sales of desktop and laptop computers. Google has been able to adapt better than most companies, partly because its search engine and other services are embedded in the popular Android mobile operating system, but it hasn't been totally unscathed. Google's average ad price

es have been declining for the past three-and-half years, partly because marketers so far have been unwilling to pay as much for the commercial message displayed on the smaller screens of smartphones. The company, though, says mobile ad prices have been steadily climbing and will continue to do so as marketers recognize the value of being able to connect with prospective customers at the precise moment that they are looking for someplace to eat, or comparing products on a smartphone while standing in a store.

"The future of mobile is now," says Jerry Dischler, a Google Inc. vice president in charge of the company's "AdWords" service for creating online marketing campaigns.

Besides in the U.S., Google's mobile search requests are outstripping requests in nine other countries. Japan is the only other country that Google is identifying.

The Mountain View, California, company isn't specifying just how many mobile search requests it is getting. Google processes more than 100 billion search re-



In this Dec. 10, 2013 file photo, a reporter uses his smartphone during a presentation for the new Google cultural institute in Paris.

Associated Press

quests worldwide each month, including queries on PCs.

As part of the mobile transition, Google last month overhauled its search-recommendation system to favor websites that are easier to read and load on smartphones. That change, known as "Mobilegeddon," prodded millions of websites to make changes to ensure they work well on

smartphones to avoid being demoted in Google's search results.

Google also has been introducing advertising formats that tend to work better on mobile devices. For instance, rooms can now be booked within hotel ads, and car ads can now be swiped across a screen to make it easier to comparison shop.

In addition to announc-

ing the milestone in mobile search, Google also introduced on Tuesday a service for comparing mortgage rates in the U.S. The mortgage product expands upon a similar service for auto insurance policies that Google unveiled in California in March. Google is adding three more states — Texas, Illinois and Pennsylvania — to the auto insurance service. □

U.S. gives farmers approval to spray crops from drones

SCOTT SMITH

Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) —

A drone large enough to carry tanks of fertilizers and pesticides has won rare approval from federal authorities to spray crops in the United States, officials said Tuesday.

The drone, called the RMAX, is a remotely piloted helicopter that weighs 207 pounds (94 kilograms), said Steve Markofski, a spokesman for Yamaha Corp. U.S.A., which developed the aircraft.

Smaller drones weighing a few pounds had already been approved for limited use to take pictures that help farmers identify un-

healthy crops. The RMAX is the first time a drone big enough to carry a payload has been approved, Markofski said.

The drone already has been used elsewhere, including by rice farmers in Japan. The FAA approved it for the U.S. on Friday.

"I certainly understand their cautious approach," Markofski said. "It's a daunting task given our airspace is complicated."

The drone is best suited for precision spraying on California's rolling vineyards and places that are hard to reach from the ground or with larger, piloted planes, said Ken Giles, professor of

biological and agricultural engineering at the University of California, Davis. Giles tested the drone in California to see if it could be used here.

"A vehicle like this gives you a way to get in and get out and get that treatment done," Giles said.

Brian Wynne, president and CEO of the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, said in a statement that the approval highlights other potential uses.

"The FAA is taking an important step forward to helping more industries in the U.S. realize the benefits (drone) technology has to offer," he said. □



In this Oct. 15, 2014, file photo, a drone called the RMAX, a remotely piloted helicopter, sprays water over grapevines during a demonstration of its aerial application capabilities at the University of California, Davis' Oakville Station test vineyard in Oakville, Calif.

Associated Press

Stocks drop on jobs data, Yellen comments

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks fell across industries on Wednesday as investors worried over stock valuations, economic growth and rising interest rates. Markets started the day higher, propelled by a jump in energy stocks, but then quickly gave up the gains.

day lower, led by a 1.2 percent slump in telecommunications companies. The S&P 500 fell 9.31 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,080.15. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 86.22 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,841.98. The Nasdaq composite declined 19.68 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,919.64.

a question about risks to financial stability at a conference in Washington. The S&P 500 now trades at 17.5 times what companies in the index earned in the past 12 months, according to FactSet, a data provider. That is higher, meaning more expensive, than the 10-year average of 14.6 times.



Trader Michael Smyth, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. stocks fell across industries on Wednesday as investors worried over stock valuations, economic growth and rising interest rates.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

A comment from Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen suggesting that stocks are generally overvalued added to the selling pressure. Uncertainty over how quickly interest rates will climb also weighed on markets as yields on bonds continued to rise. Some market experts think the Fed will have to increase its short-term rate relatively soon to fight inflation. The yield on 10-year U.S. Treasury note rose to 2.23 percent, its highest level in two months. "There are creeping worries that inflation, which was seen as non-existent, will soon be part of landscape," said Mark Luschni, chief investment strategist for Janney Montgomery Scott. "There is data suggesting the Federal Reserve will not be in a hurry to raise rates, but people are worried." Eight of the 10 industry sectors of the Standard and Poor's 500 index ended the

In economic news, U.S. payroll processor ADP said hiring slowed in April to its weakest pace in nearly a year and a half. But a separate report showed labor costs jumped 5 percent in the first quarter, after a 4.2 percent rise in the fourth quarter. "I think we're going to get higher rates, and the stock market is going to struggle with this," said Wells Capital Management chief strategist Jim Paulsen, noting that the unemployment rate fell to 5.5 percent in March, down nearly half from its peak less than six years ago. "It doesn't take much to overheat when you're near full employment." Investors will get a clearer picture on Friday, when the government releases its monthly survey on hiring and unemployment. The decline in stocks accelerated in midmorning trading after Yellen said market valuations were generally "quite high" in response to

Corporate earnings reports were mixed. Video game maker Electronic Arts rose 3 percent and Lending Club rose 4 percent after reporting results that beat analysts' expectations. EA rose \$1.77 to \$60.93 and Lending Club rose 73 cents to \$18.31. News Corp., the publisher of The Wall Street Journal, fell \$1.03, or 6.4 percent, to \$14.99 after its results missed forecasts. Restaurant chain Noodles & Co. also reported disappointing results, and investors sent its stock down \$4.01, or 19 percent, to \$16.70. In deal news, shares of Synageva BioPharma soared 112 percent after Alexion Pharmaceuticals said it would pay a huge premium to buy the maker of rare disease treatments in an \$8.4 billion deal. Synageva has no products on the market and lost nearly \$60 million in the first quarter. Its stock rose \$107.52 to \$203.39. □

Lending Club jumps as online lending continues to explode

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Everyone wants in the Club. Shares of Lending Club advanced 4 percent Wednesday after the company reported better-than-expected results and raised its full-year outlook as more people discover peer-to-peer lending as a cheaper alternative to a traditional bank.

It's a positive bit of good news for a company whose the stock is down nearly 30 percent year to date as investors wait to see if Lending Club, and its competition, become as big as some investors believe it will be.

Lending Club is the largest company in the peer-to-peer lending industry, which has become one of the hottest topics among investors in the past year. Lending Club is not a bank nor does it lend money itself. Like other peer-to-peer lending companies, Lending Club operates a website that puts potential borrowers and investors together. Lending Club earns revenue by charging a servicing fee on all loans it helps create.

The San Francisco-based company said it earned an adjusted profit of 2 cents per share on revenue of \$81.2 million. Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research anticipated a profit of a penny per share on revenue of \$74.7 million. Lending Club now expects its full-year revenue to be in a range of \$385 million to \$392 million, up from its previous range of \$370 million to \$380 million.

Interest in peer-to-peer borrowing is still small, but remains strong, judging by Lending Club's loan originations. The company originated \$1.64 billion in loans in the first 90 days of 2015, compared with \$791 million a year earlier. That's a 107 percent year-over-year growth.

As more people take out loans, the type of people borrowing money is broadening as well. In

2009, Lending Club said 53 percent of its borrowers were 35 years old or younger. Now nearly half of all Lending Club borrowers are between the ages of 36 and 50, a sign that online lending is moving beyond the digitally attuned and young. Peer-to-peer lending still makes up a tiny fraction of the \$700 billion consumer loan market. But investors and analysts believe that percentage will only grow, since the interest rates Lending Club, Prosper and others can charge for their loans is significantly less than a traditional bank.

Because of the intense interest in online lending industry, there has been a flood of competition from new companies and old Wall Street mainstays alike. Goldman Sachs is reportedly looking to get into online lending and banks are partnering with Lending Club and others to stay competitive in consumer loans. A recent conference in New York attracted nearly 2,000 attendees, double the year before. The booming interest has required Lending Club to spend heavily to stay ahead. The company spent \$35.8 million on sales and marketing last quarter, a 75 percent jump from the \$20.6 million what it spent last year. The company's overall expenses increased sharply in the quarter from a year earlier, particularly in engineering and product development. The company also saw a sharp rise in the amount of money it gave out in stock-based compensation to recruit new engineers and employees. Despite signs that Lending Club and the entire peer-to-peer lending industry has room to grow, investors remain cautious. Even with the stock down 30 percent this year, it still costs a massive \$348 for every dollar of earnings Lending Club has, far more than the \$24 average for companies in the Standard & Poor's SmallCap 600, an index of small-company stocks. □

Tesla beats Wall Street forecasts on record quarterly sales

DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Electric car maker Tesla Motors delivered a quarterly record of 10,045 cars in the first quarter, and its results beat Wall Street's expectations despite investment in new products and factory capacity and the impact of the strong dollar.

Tesla's net loss widened to \$154 million. The loss, \$1.22 per share, compared to a loss of 40 cents per share in the January-March period a year ago.

Palo Alto, California-based Tesla said North American and European orders for the Model S sedan were up, but orders in China continued to lag expecta-

tions. Tesla said it remains confident it will sell 55,000 Model S sedans and Model X SUVs this year.

The company said it remains on track to deliver the Model X SUV by the end of the third quarter. Tesla is currently building prototypes of the Model X, and in the first quarter it invested in an expanded

body shop and paint shop for the Model X at its California factory.

Tesla says unadjusted figures do not reflect its true performance because accounting rules limit how it records revenue for leases. On an adjusted basis, the company lost \$91.6 million, or 36 cents per share, in the January-March pe-

riod. That beat Wall Street's forecast of a 50-cent loss per share, according to analysts polled by FactSet. First quarter revenue rose 51 percent to \$939.9 million. Adjusted revenue of \$1.1 billion beat analysts' forecast of \$1.04 billion. Tesla shares rose 2.4 percent to \$236 in after-hours trading. □

Alexion Pharma to pay \$8.4 billion for Synageva BioPharma



Sanj Patel, President and CEO of Synageva BioPharma Corp., attends a ceremony at the Nasdaq site in New York. Alexion Pharmaceuticals on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 announced it is spending \$8.4 billion to buy fellow rare disease treatment maker Synageva BioPharma, a company with no products on the market. (AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

TOM MURPHY

AP Business Writer

Alexion Pharmaceuticals will pay a huge premium to buy Synageva BioPharma in an \$8.4-billion deal for a rare disease treatment maker that lost nearly \$60 million in the first quarter and has no products on the market.

Alexion made the deal, announced Wednesday

morning, more for what Synageva can offer rather than what it already provides. That includes access to a potential blockbuster drug and stronger footing in lucrative field where drugmakers can command top dollar for treatments without facing fierce negotiations from insurers and other payers.

Synageva's pipeline of

products under development includes Kanuma, a potential treatment that's currently being reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration, which is expected to decide by September whether to approve it. Kanuma treats lysosomal acid lipase deficiency, a disease that causes the buildup of fatty material in the liver and

blood vessels and can cause serious health problems or death.

A decision from European regulators is expected in the second half of the year as well, and Alexion executives told analysts Wednesday morning that they expect sales from that drug to eventually top \$1 billion annually and provide a steady revenue source through the next decade.

"We are acquiring Kanuma at the right point in time, before approval and when we can shape the global launch plans to serve the greatest number of patients," CEO David Hallal said.

Shares of Synageva BioPharma Corp. more than doubled in value Wednesday after Alexion said it will pay \$115 in cash and a portion of its stock for each Synageva share. That puts the total per-share price at about \$226, based on the Tuesday closing price of Alexion shares.

That's a premium of about 136 percent to Synageva's \$95.87 closing price on Tuesday.

Lexington, Massachusetts-

based Synageva brought in only \$927,000 in royalty revenue during the first quarter, but it also has several other potential rare disease treatments under development, aside from Kanuma.

Alexion officials said the deal will help their company diversify its revenue growth. Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc. is based in Cheshire, Connecticut, and makes Soliris, which is approved to treat a rare, life-threatening blood disorder called paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria. Many medicines for rare diseases sell for \$100,000 or more for a year of treatment, although drugmakers usually give financial aid to patients and big discounts to insurers and government health programs. Rare disease treatments generally focus on small patient populations and can save lives or make a big difference in a person's condition, factors that help make them lucrative for drugmakers, according to Steve Brozak, who follows the pharmaceutical industry for WBB Securities. □

Whole Foods plans new chain to court millennials

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Whole Foods is planning to open a new chain of stores geared toward millennials as it faces intensifying competition from traditional supermarkets and big box retailers muscling into organic and natural products.

The company said Wednesday it's building a team to focus exclusively on the new concept and that it's

already negotiating leases. Stores are expected to start opening next year, followed by a "fairly rapid expansion," it said.

Walter Robb, co-CEO of Whole Foods, said the stores will feature lower prices that appeal to younger customers, as well as a "modern, streamlined design, innovative technology and a curated selection."

A name for the new concept wasn't disclosed; the

company said more details will be shared before Labor Day.

The plans come as Whole Foods — which has more than 400 locations — has seen its sales growth slow as organic and natural foods become increasingly mainstream. That is pressuring the company to draw a sharper distinction between itself and competitors. Last year, for instance, it launched a program that

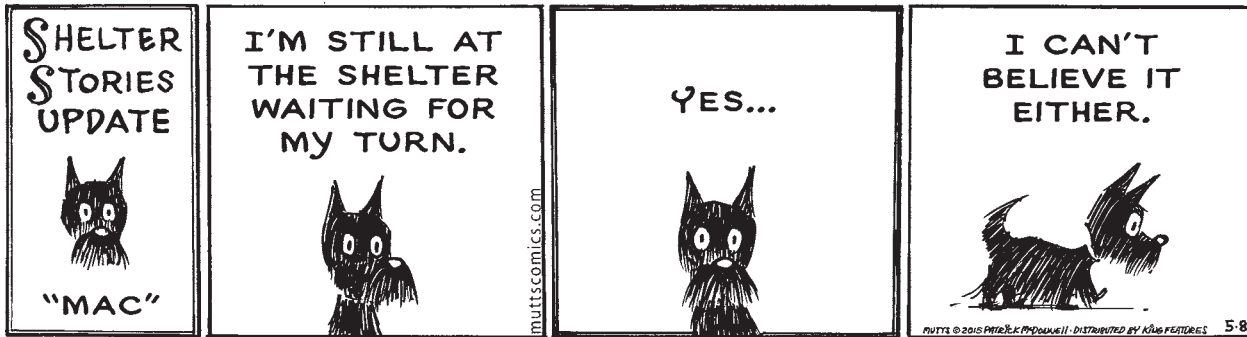
ranks produce and flowers based on their environmental impact.

At the same time, Whole Foods is also trying to appeal to a broader audience by combatting its "Whole Paycheck" image and keeping prices down. But that push is expected to nibble away at its profit margins.

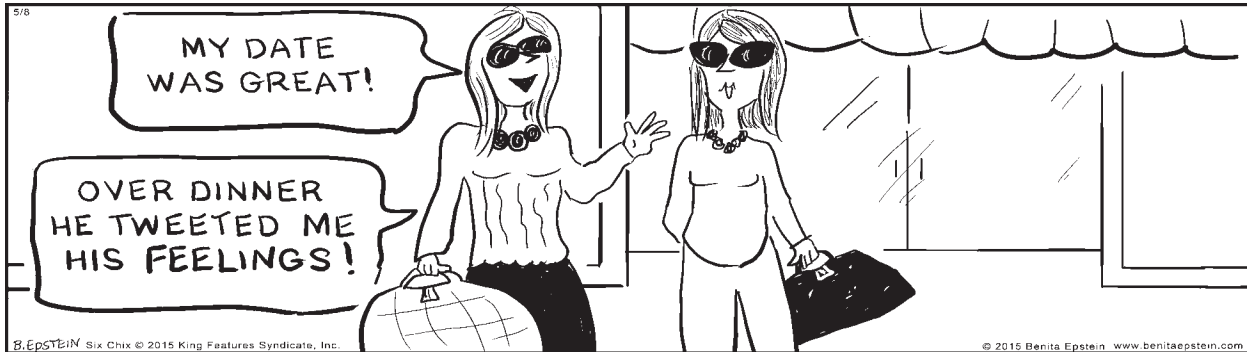
The new chain tailored toward younger consumers could also pressure mar-

gins, given its focus on lower prices. But during a conference call, Whole Foods co-founder and co-CEO John Mackey said it will broaden the company's reach with a new generation of people interested in natural foods. Mackey dismissed the suggestion that it might cannibalize sales at existing Whole Foods stores; he said he still thinks Whole Foods can triple its number of locations in the U.S. □

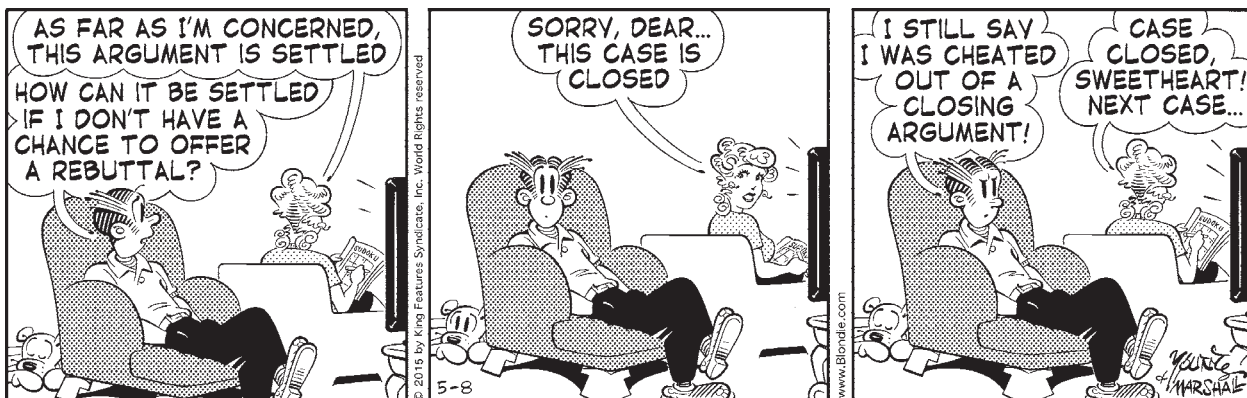
Mutts



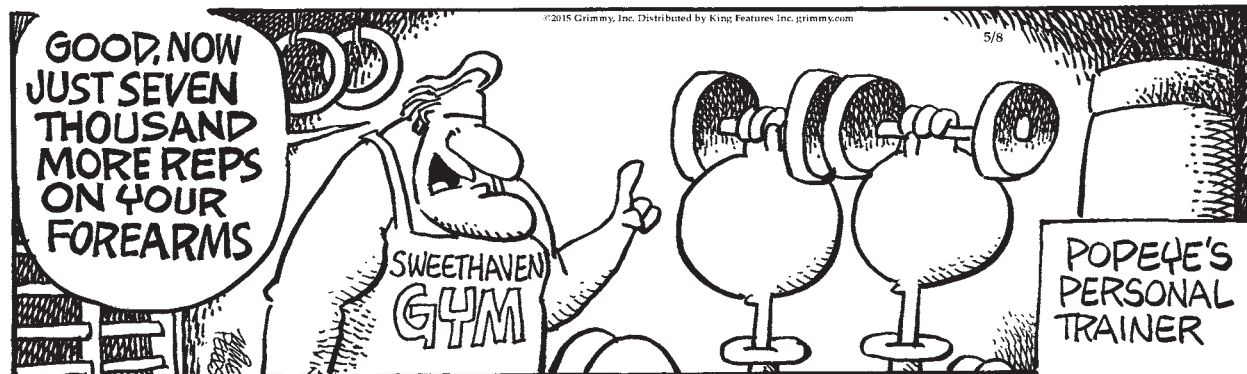
6 Chix



Blondie



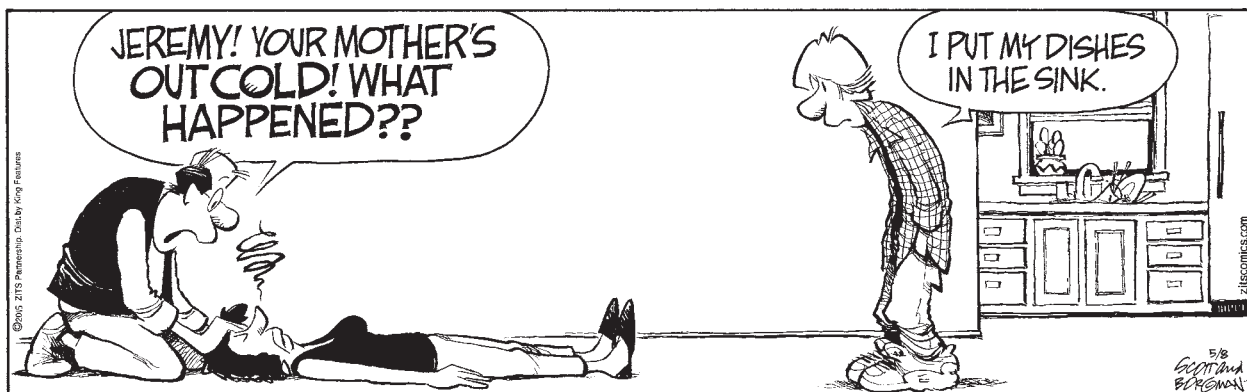
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	4		8		6			
		2		4		6		3
	7						5	
7								1
	8			9			4	
9								2
	2						1	
5		7		2		3		
			6		4		8	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

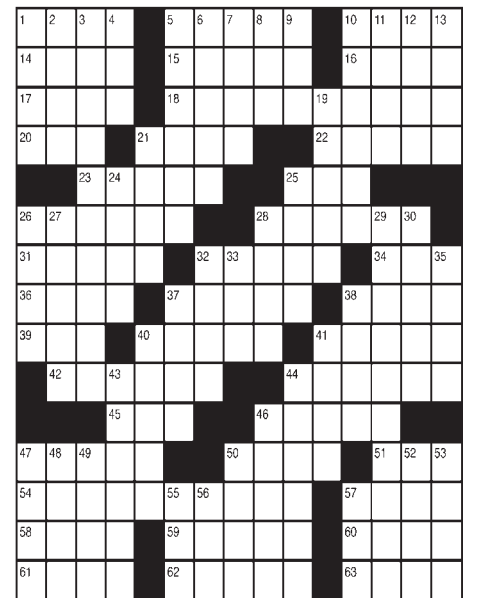
6	7	8	5	4	1	9	2	3
1	2	9	3	8	6	4	5	7
4	5	3	7	9	2	6	8	1
8	6	4	9	5	3	7	1	2
3	9	2	6	1	7	8	4	5
7	1	5	8	2	4	3	9	6
9	8	7	2	3	5	1	6	4
5	3	1	4	6	9	2	7	8
2	4	6	1	7	8	5	3	9

ACROSS

- Fruit spreads
- "Thou ___ not steal"
- Word in a red octagon
- Stench
- Forbidden thing
- ___ State
- Buckeyes
- Without
- Beaver State residents
- Second-largest bird
- Upper limbs
- Identical
- Pouts
- "___ Maria"
- Gushed forth
- Scandinavian country
- Walkways
- Lethal
- Musician's job
- ___ up; misbehaves
- Procrastinate
- ___ Cola
- ___ culpa; guilty one's phrase
- Slightly more than a quart
- Indy 500 car
- Long-___ shirt
- Dressy attire
- Civil War Gen. Robert E. ___
- Expand
- ___ up; arose
- Healthy
- Refrain syllable
- Capital ___; death penalty
- Somber
- Japanese sashes
- Our planet
- Stack
- Parisian's head
- Cluttered
- Top cards

DOWN

- "No way, ___!"
- Actor Sandler
- Grand; huge
- Yrkb. section
- Stowed away
- Injures
- Lincoln's namesakes
- Journal
- Also
- Made dirty
- ___ restaurant; where to order tom yum goong
- Cry from a sty
- Sit for an artist
- Belly button
- Jungle animals
- Is in the red
- Pass ___; perish
- Close angrily
- ___ oneself; works steadily
- Celebrity
- Self-absorbed
- More pleasant
- Big party
- Ginger ___; soft drink
- Actor Sinise
- Seedy bar
- Walking stick
- City in England



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/8/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

BIB		ALDER		NOSE
ACES		TOEYE		IOWA
HEAT		TALES		CZAR
DRAMATIST				KEYS
		TECH		APE
AMBUSH		BOTULISM		
ROARS		TUNES		RUE
DOLE		PAGED		SAGA
OLE		BALLS		FATAL
RADIANCE		MISERS		
		MAC		LASH
SHOP		ASSISTANT		
WADI		KEACH		YARD
ALES		EERIE		SPEED
BOSH		SKITS		SEE

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5/8/15

- "Ticket to ___"; Beatles song
- Heroine of little girls' books
- Very dirty
- Desires
- Notice
- Toothpaste container
- "Step ___!"; cry to a slowpoke
- His and ___
- Irritate
- ___ Brothers; 1950s quartet
- Skirt's edge
- Actress West
- Transcript avg.

Keystone

Continued from page 8

At one point, Keystone XL's path through South Dakota seemed a fore-gone conclusion. Unlike in Nebraska, the company quickly received a state permit and eventually secured rights to build. But as opposition spread elsewhere and delays mounted, an unlikely group of South Dakotans coalesced in opposition to the project.

Like other landowners along the proposed path, Paul Seamans signed an easement allowing TransCanada to build the pipeline on his land outside Draper, near the central part of the state. Seamans said he had qualms when he signed but figured that the pipeline was going to be built anyway and that he should take the best price available.

After signing, Seamans soured further on the project and began attending anti-pipeline meetings with Indian tribes. To some in the state, the opposition has proved baffling. Several South Dakota politicians have signaled their support for Keystone XL, and some landowners along and near the route say they look forward to the tax revenue a pipeline would bring. Many also say they trust TransCanada's repeated assurances that the project would be safe. □

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10	139	\$8,500
51+52	2547	\$38,250
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SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
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FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

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TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP



May 7 Carnival Conquest

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
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FUNDACION

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Narcotics Anonymous

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Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

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Amount of carbon dioxide in air keeps rising, hits milestone

SETH BORENSTEIN
 AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Global levels of carbon dioxide, the most prevalent heat-trapping gas, have passed a daunting milestone, U.S. government scientists say.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says in March, the global monthly average for carbon dioxide hit 400.83 parts per million. That is the first month in modern records that the entire globe broke 400 ppm, reaching levels that haven't been seen in about 2 million years.

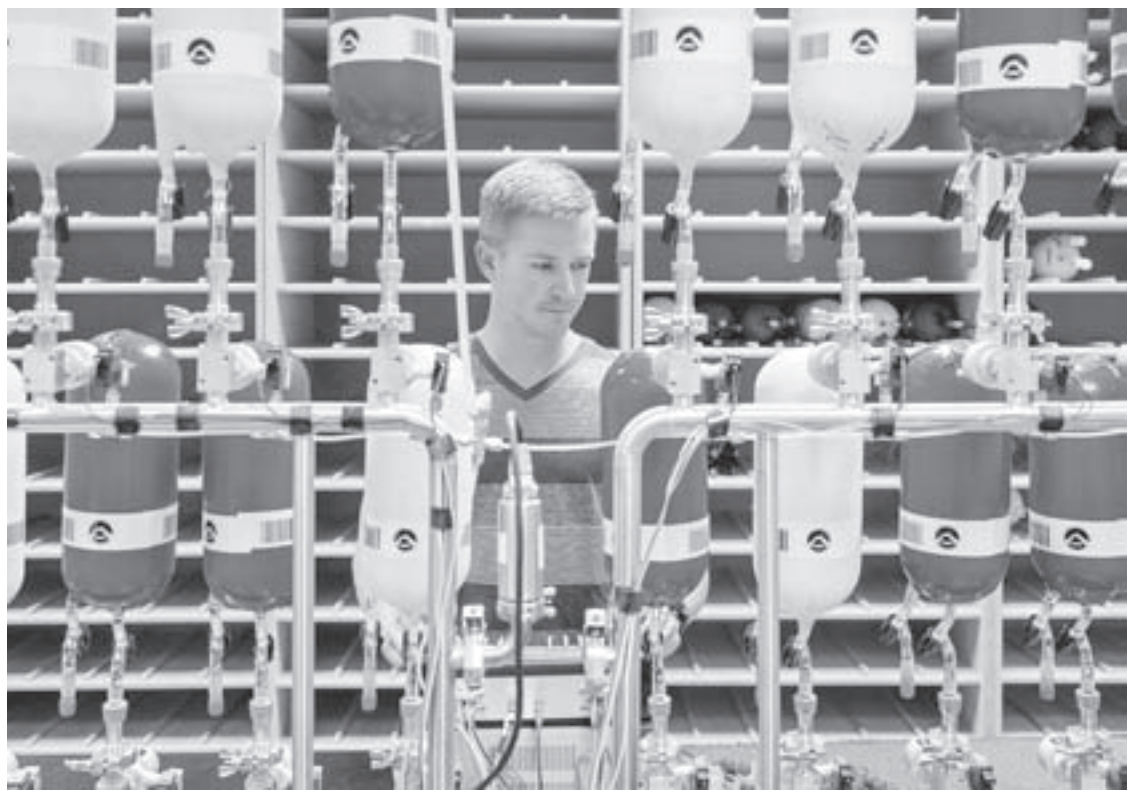
"It's both disturbing and daunting," said NOAA chief greenhouse gas scientist Pieter Tans. "Daunt-

ing from the standpoint on how hard it is to slow this down."

He said it is disturbing because it is happening at a pace so fast that it seems like an explosion compared to Earth's slow-moving natural changes.

Carbon dioxide isn't just higher, it is increasing at a record pace, 100 times faster than natural rises in the past, Tans said.

Pushed by the burning of coal, oil and gas, global carbon dioxide is 18 percent higher than it was in 1980, when NOAA first calculated a worldwide average. In 35 years, carbon dioxide levels rose 61 parts per million. In pre-human times, it took about 6,000 years for carbon dioxide



This handout photo provided by NOAA, taken in May 2014, shows Eric Moglia of NOAA's Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, prepares air sample canisters at NOAA's Earth System Research Laboratory in Boulder, Colo., before shipping to sampling sites around the world.
 Associated Press

to rise about 80 parts per million, Tans said.

Monthly levels fluctuate with the season, peaking in May and then decreasing as plants absorb carbon dioxide. But they are increasing on a year-to-year basis.

Levels are also higher in the Northern Hemisphere because that's where carbon dioxide is being spewed by power plants and vehicles, Tans said.

The first time levels passed the 400 ppm milestone was for just a few weeks

in the Arctic in 2012. Last year the monthly Northern Hemisphere average measured in Hawaii exceeded 400 and now the global average has as well, said James Butler, head of NOAA's global monitoring division. □



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Prince announces 'Rally 4 Peace' concert Sunday in Baltimore



In this Feb. 8, 2015 file photo, Prince presents the award for album of the year at the 57th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Prince has announced plans to perform at a concert in Baltimore following recent unrest in the city over the death of a man who was fatally injured in police custody.

A statement issued Tuesday says the pop icon will perform Sunday at "Rally 4 Peace," a concert at the Royal Farms Arena in Baltimore.

The statement says the event is meant to be "a catalyst for pause and re-

flection" after the recent protests and riots over Freddie Gray's death that prompted Maryland's governor to bring in the National Guard. Attendees of the concert are asked to wear gray.

Prince will also be joined by funk-rock group 3RDEYE-GIRL. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Baltimore-based youth charities.

Six police officers involved in Gray's arrest have been charged in his death. □

Geena Davis launches Arkansas film fest for women, diversity

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — With help from a slew of corporate sponsors, Geena Davis and filmmakers focused on women and diversity have taken over Bentonville, Arkansas, a city of 40,000 best known as Wal-Mart's home base.

While it's not the first film festival to specialize in diversity, Davis said it's the only film competition to promise theatrical releases for winning entries.

"It's unheard of in the world, actually," the Oscar-winner said in a telephone interview before opening the festival Tuesday. "It's the only festival offering distribution across theatrical, digital and on TV and on DVD. ... That's just part of our push to show how commercial diverse films can be."

About 75 films will be screened over the four-day festival, which will also include panel discussions and a celebratory "A League of Their Own" baseball game, featuring appearances by Rosie O'Donnell and two original members of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League.

Davis plans to expand the festival beyond Bentonville to include educational outreach and events throughout the year. Founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media in 2007, the actress plans to bring the research amassed by her organization to film schools and colleges around the country.

"It's very important to educate the next generation of content creators before they even start their professional careers," she said. "Once it's brought to (filmmakers') attention, once they hear the numbers, they're just stunned and horrified... how much gender bias there is and lack of diversity."

For example, research funded by Davis'



In this Nov. 14, 2014 file photo, Geena Davis poses in the press room at the Hollywood Film Awards at the Palladium in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

institute and conducted by the University of Southern California found that women — who constitute more than half of the U.S. population — typically comprise just 17 percent of on-screen crowd scenes.

"That is one of the most shocking things when people hear it," Davis said. "And one of the things very often they'll say is, 'Let's just change that immediately.'"

A favorite catch-phrase of the Geena Davis Institute is "If she can see it, she can be it."

"In pretty much every sector of society, female leadership has stalled out in about the same range — interestingly, also around 17 percent," Davis said. "It's going to take a long time no matter how hard we work. We can't snap our fingers and tomorrow Congress is 50 percent women. "But the one area of gross imbalance that can be changed overnight is on screen, because they very next movie somebody makes can be gender balanced." □

Smashing Pumpkins frontman brings awareness to vets

JOHN CARUCCI

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When Smashing Pumpkins takes the stage this summer, part of the band's mission will be to raise awareness of the plight of U.S. military veterans.

For its "The End Times" tour, the band will work with the Easter Seals Dixon Center on a joint venture called "New Beginnings: Reaching America's Vets."

Frontman Billy Corgan doesn't see it as a partisan issue; rather, he thinks the alt rockers can help some veterans and their families that simply fall through the cracks.

"We kind of want to raise awareness of what's going on in our veterans' communities, we want to support families," Corgan told The Associated Press on Tuesday at a Live Nation event promoting National Concert Day.

He added: "It sounds like a very simplistic message, but it needs to be branded in a new way in American society."

Corgan attended the event with Col. David Sutherland, chairman of the Easter Seals Dixon

Center. The former U.S. Army officer explained why it was important to increase public awareness of issues surrounding the quality of life for veterans, military families and families of the fallen.

"There are 1.4 million veterans from all generations living at or below the poverty line. There's nearly 600,000 that are unemployed, 190,000 post-9/11," Sutherland said. "So it's not just awareness as we forget about the wars. We can't forget about the veterans."

The Smashing Pumpkins' tour kicks off June 16 in Munhall, Pennsylvania, outside Pittsburgh, with Marilyn Manson sharing the bill.

Both Corgan and Manson come from military families.

Said Corgan: "This is a perfect opportunity working with Col. Sutherland to bring that message where people say, 'Well, why are you guys doing it?'" □

Musician Billy Corgan poses for a photo at National Concert Day at Irving Plaza on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press



Harris Faulkner considered rising star at Fox

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Harris Faulkner's hobby may sound like a patriotic put-on, but the Fox News Channel anchor insists it's legit. "The thing that I really love to do, that I now only do in the shower, is to sing the national anthem," said Faulkner, a regular on Fox's daytime show "Outnumbered."

While you clear that image of a shower gel bottle doubling as a hand-held mic, know that Faulkner belted out "The Star Spangled Banner" in public before Kansas City Chiefs and Minnesota Timberwolves games. She sang it so much in the newsroom at a Kansas City television station that a colleague secretly arranged her public debut.

Faulkner, 49, is considered a rising star at Fox News after a decade there. Besides "Outnumbered," which just celebrated its first full year on the air, she regularly works six-day weeks by anchoring a Sunday evening newscast. "She's a go-to person around here," said Jay



Harris Faulkner, host of "Fox Report Weekend" on Sunday evenings, as well as serving as a co-anchor on "Outnumbered," on the Fox News Channel, poses for photos on set, in New York, Tuesday, April 28, 2015. Associated Press

Wallace, Fox's senior vice president of news. Her energy and willingness to put in the extra work has endeared her to management, he said.

The noontime "Outnumbered" has worked beyond its mildly sexist premise, where four women arrayed on a couch kick around the day's news with one male panelist. Faulkner's news chops

make her the closest thing to a ringleader. Sandra Smith of Fox Business Network and commentator Andrea Tantaros are the other regulars. The fourth woman, and the man, are rotated in. "Outnumbered" guys have included Fox regulars like Ed Henry and Bill Hemmer and guests like Terry Bradshaw and Gene Simmons.

"The show is a mix of hard

news, tough topics and a little bit of that 'girls go to Vegas' thing mixed in," Faulkner said.

As is typical for Fox shows, it beats its news competition. March's average viewership of 1.32 million was more than CNN and MSNBC combined in the time slot, the Nielsen company said. In some markets, "Outnumbered" does as well as network shows like

"The View" or "The Talk."

Often, it resembles an hour-long version of the "hot topics" segment on "The View," although Fox dispenses with chat for news coverage when the situation calls for it.

In a more typical newscaster role at Fox at the time, Faulkner jumped at the opportunity to be part of the new show when it was offered by "the chairman," as she refers to Fox News CEO Roger Ailes.

"My first reaction was elation," she said. "Doing hard news and being able to use another set of muscles, I knew was going to be a challenge for me, and I've loved every second of it, because it is so different."

At first some of the men felt like they had to fill a role, or subscribe to gender stereotypes, she said. But the show usually appears now to have moved beyond such awkwardness.

A quick surf of her social media account turned up evidence that many viewers take note of the show's unofficial signature: four sets of shapely, crossed female legs never hidden by pantsuits. □

Scientific study: Beatles, Stones eclipsed by hip-hop impact

GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The impact of hip-hop's arrival on the pop music scene eclipsed that of the Beatles-led British invasion of 1964, a computer analysis of 17,000 songs has found. The unusual study found three revolutions on the charts: the 1991 emergence of rap and hip-hop on mainstream charts; the synth-led new wave movement of 1983, and the advent of the Beatles, Rolling Stones, The Who and other British rockers in the early 1960s.

Although the Beatles — paced by the songwriting of John Lennon and Paul McCartney — enjoy perhaps the highest place in critics' esteem, the researchers found the hip-hop movement — from pioneers like Afrika Bam-



In this Oct. 10, 2013 file photo, U.S. singer Jay-Z performs on stage at the O2 arena in London, as part of his Magna Carta World Tour. Associated Press

baataa to megastars like Jay-Z — more profound. They wrote that the rise of rap and related genres represents "the single most important event that has shaped the musical structure of the American charts in the period we studied."

By contrast, the British

bands — heavily influenced by U.S. stars like Chuck Berry and Little Richard — were found to have followed existing trends.

That finding may trouble Beatles fans who think rock 'n' roll was invented with "Please Please Me" and "She Loves You." And it

does not address why the Rolling Stones can still sell out arenas more than 50 years after they set the London club scene on fire with a British take on Chicago blues.

The study, released on Wednesday, was conducted by the University of London and Imperial College. The researchers analyzed 30-second snippets of roughly 17,000 songs from the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 charts from 1960 to 2010.

Computer programs were used to categorize each song based on musical properties, instrumentation used, chord patterns and other elements.

Lead author Matthias Mauch said some may disagree with this scientific approach to a very personal subject but asserted the study breaks new ground. "For the first time we can

measure musical properties in recordings on a large scale," he said. "We can actually go beyond what music experts tell us, or what we know ourselves about them, by looking directly into the songs, measuring their make-up, and understanding how they have changed."

The authors claim the study provides "the basis for the scientific study of musical change" and could be used to provide useful analysis of music from other countries as well.

The study is not likely to be popular with aging musicians who peaked in the mid-1980s, which the researchers found to be the most static period in the study.

The authors also rejected the assertion that today's pop music is increasingly homogenized. □

'Inequality Is a Choice'



NICHOLAS KRISTOF
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The eruptions in Baltimore have been tied, in complex ways, to frustrations at American inequality, and a new measure of the economic gaps arrived earlier this year:

It turns out that the Wall Street bonus pool in 2014 was roughly twice the total annual earnings of all Americans working full time at the federal minimum wage.

You read that right: Just the annual bonuses for just the sliver of Americans who work just in finance just in New York City dwarfed the combined year-round earnings of all Americans earning the federal minimum wage.

We've been walloped with staggering statistics like this long enough that although this used to be a Democratic issue, Republicans are now speaking up. "The United States is beset by a crisis in inequality," warned Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, a Republican with Tea Party support (although he added that his concern is gaps in opportunity, not wealth). Likewise, Lloyd Blankfein, the chief executive of Goldman Sachs, declared recently that "we have to do a better job" of curbing inequality.

Yet while we broadly lament inequality, we treat it as some natural disaster imposed upon us. That's absurd. The roots of inequality are complex and, to some extent, reflect global forces, but they also reflect our policy choices.

In his new book, "The Great Divide," Joseph Stiglitz, a Nobel Prize-winning economist, includes two chapters whose titles sum it up: "Inequality Is Not Inevitable" and "Inequality Is a Choice."

"I overheard one billionaire - who had gotten his start in life by inheriting a fortune - discuss with another the problem of lazy Americans who were trying to free ride on the rest," Stiglitz writes. "Soon thereafter, they seamlessly transitioned into a discussion of tax shelters."

Say what?

We as a nation have chosen to prioritize tax shelters over minimum wages, subsidies for private jets over robust services for children to break the cycle of poverty. And the political conversation is often not about free rides by corporations, but about free rides by the impoverished.

Kansas' Legislature is so concerned with this that it recently banned those receiving government assistance from, among other things, spending welfare funds on cruise ships (there is, of course, no indication that this was a problem). Will Kansas next

address the risk that food stamps are spent on caviar and truffles? We all know that public money is better used to subsidize tax-deductible business meals by executives at fancy restaurants.

As Stiglitz notes: "Inequality is a matter not so much of capitalism in the 20th century as of democracy in the 20th century."

So if we were to choose to make inequality a priority, what policies could we turn to? This month, Harvard University Press is publishing "Inequality: What Can Be Done?" by Anthony B. Atkinson, a British economist, in which he lays out 15 steps to reduce inequality. A few of his recommendations:

- Government should be more concerned with monopolies and competition policy.

- Trade unions should be bolstered to represent workers' interests.

- Government should provide public-sector jobs at minimum wage to those who want them, in areas such as meals-on-wheels, elderly care, child care and so on.

- In addition to a minimum wage, there should be a framework to restrain pay at the highest levels. Atkinson cites companies that have voluntarily decreed that executive pay should be capped at 65 or 75 times the average pay in the firm.

- Personal income taxes should be made more progressive, with a maximum rate of 65 percent.
- Every child should get a "child benefit" payment, to help keep kids out of poverty.

So if we're all upset at inequality, these are ideas to debate. Others, including Stiglitz, have put forth many more. Research groups like MDRC have rigorous evidence of what breaks cycles of poverty. In short: We're not helpless. In the case of inequality, there's a bizarre disconnect between the scale of the challenge and the tools politicians are prepared to use. This is, according to a Pew survey last year, what the U.S. public viewed as the greatest threat to the world, yet Congress won't even lift the federal minimum wage to the inflation-adjusted level it reached in the 1960s.

Indeed, answer this question on how Congress responds to inequality. More than one choice could be correct.

Congressional leadership is showing resolve to slash: A) subsidies for private jets; B) the carried interest tax loophole for billionaires; C) food stamps; D) the estate tax on couples with estates worth more than \$10.9 million.

The answer is C and D - steps that would hurt low-income children while offering a helping hand to billionaires. Congress is addressing inequality by exacerbating it at both ends.

Inequality is a tough problem, but we have tools that could begin to make a difference. The problem isn't inequality; the problem is us. We're paralyzed. Contact Kristof at Facebook.com/Kristof, Twitter.com/Nick-Kristof or by mail at The New York Times, 620 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10018. □



Bernie Sanders Yells His Mind



GAIL COLLINS
© 2015 New York Times

Our topic today is: Bernie Sanders for president?

"My fifteen minutes of fame," the Vermont senator said gruffly over the phone.

Gruff is pretty much his normal way of speaking, but Sanders was actually in a good mood at this point in the conversation. Later, the volume would escalate.

He announced Thursday he was running for the Democratic nomination, first in an email, then in a makeshift news conference on the lawn outside the Capitol. There are worse approaches. One of the few previous presidential candidates from Vermont was George Dewey, the hero of the Spanish-American War. Dewey started his campaign with a statement that read, in part: "Since studying the subject I am convinced that the office of the president is not such a very difficult one to fill ..." It was pretty much downhill from there. Sanders' beginning was more auspicious. His infant campaign raised more than \$1.5 million in donations in the first 24 hours: "Thirty-five thousand donations averaging \$43 apiece!"

For you, concerned citizen, this is nothing but good news. For one thing, we can now spend the winter entertaining the idea of a President Bernie. Plus, competition is always better. Hillary Clinton is no longer in danger of spending the next year just listen-

ing to average voters and denying she feels entitled.

Besides the two announced candidates, there will probably be other contenders, including former Maryland governor Martin ("former Maryland governor") O'Malley. Also interested are ex-Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia and Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island, a former Republican senator turned former independent governor who is now a Democrat.

Question: What about Elizabeth Warren?

Answer: As a rule, when people say they are not running for president more than 100 times, it is a strong indication that they are not running for president.

Question: Sanders self-identifies as a "democratic socialist." Aren't people going to think that's a little extreme?

Answer: This week, the governor of Texas announced he was putting a special watch on U.S. military exercises this summer, due to public speculation that the soldiers might take over the state and confiscate everyone's guns. Also, the Idaho Legislature recently killed a bill that would have provided federal aid in tracking down deadbeat dads, due to concern that it might involve the use of Shariah law. I do not want to hear you calling Bernie Sanders an extremist.

Sanders said his campaign goal is to "lay down a progressive agenda which speaks to the needs of working people." This would include making "the wealthiest people and corporations start paying their fair share of taxes." Now this is a problem for Democrats who envision the senator as a tool to push Clinton to the left. We already know she's going to talk endlessly about bridging the economic divide. It might help if there were more specific specifics.

"You don't know much about me, right?" asked Sanders, launching into another list of his causes: tax reform, health care, fixing the crumbling infrastruc-

ture.

"I voted against DOMA - you know what DOMA is?" he demanded, referring to the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act, which Clinton once supported during her husband's presidency. "I'm not evolving when it comes to gay rights. I was there!"

The sun was sinking over this conversation. ("You got me riled up here!") The problem was that I was talking about his potential as a debating partner who could turn Clinton into a more progressive candidate, while Sanders wants to be regarded as a potential president of the United States.

"I do resent that," he agreed. "I am in this race to win."

Sanders doesn't really want Democratic voters to compare him with Clinton to see who has the best positions on the issues. He wants them to decide who has the most consistent record in fighting for those issues, and there is absolutely no question in the world that when it comes to consistency, Bernie Sanders is Mount Rushmore to Hillary Clinton's Sheila the Shapeshifter.

Her political life has been a continual, sometimes unedifying, struggle to get the power to do what she believes are the right things for the country. His began with a long list of principled and totally hopeless campaigns whose dismal outcomes he recounts proudly in speeches: "... I received 2 percent of the vote. Not dissuaded, I ran a year later for governor of the state of Vermont and received 1 percent of the vote ..."

Then came an improbable win for mayor of the small city of Burlington, which he governed well. Then it was off to the House and the Senate, where he fought for progressive causes. He has now been in Congress for 24 years - longer, he likes to point out, than any other independent in U.S. history.

You've got to give him credit. Welcome to the race, Bernie. □

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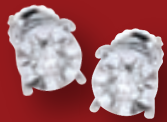
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Antipasto Is the Overture to Breezy Italian-Style Entertaining

DAVID TANIS

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An Italian meal begins with the antipasto. Meant to awaken the palate and stave off initial hunger pangs, it could just be a simple platter of sliced cured meats and a few olives. But often it is more complex, with a few chicken liver crostini or tomato-topped bruschette, perhaps, or marinated olives and anchovies, or all manner of colorful savory vegetable salads. Antipasti normally arrive on platters to be shared, an enticing and festive sight.

The antipasto table found in old-fashioned Italian restaurants is a sort of precursor to the modern-day salad bar, though usually far better and certainly more beautifully presented. The idea is to let customers serve themselves (or be served by the maître d' hôtel) a few spoonfuls of room-temperature vegetable dishes - grilled eggplant, roasted peppers, lightly pickled artichoke hearts, sautéed mushrooms - along with a



An antipasto platter with spring greens, in New York. An Italian meal begins with the antipasto, meant to awaken the palate and stave off initial hunger pangs -- as simple as sliced cured meats and a few olives, or more complex with tomato-topped bruschette and colorful savory vegetables.

(Evan Sung/The New York Times)

little cheese and salumi. There's something very welcoming about it. Choose the very freshest mozzarella, burrata or ricotta. These cheeses (serve just one kind or several) must be absolutely pristine, with no sour notes; buy them the day you intend to serve them, and make sure they are at cool room temperature, not straight from the

fridge, to accentuate their milky sweetness. Purchase thinly sliced prosciutto, salame, mortadella or lardo the same day, too. Of course, in some cases, antipasti don't necessarily precede a meal. At a wine bar, they may be the only thing offered. (Steal that idea if you're having a stand-up informal affair.) Their role, like that of tapas

in Spain, is as an accompaniment to drinks, ordered one small plate at a time, all night long.

SPRING ANTIPASTO

Time: 30 minutes

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

2 bunches small spring onions or scallions

Salt

1 bunch asparagus, about 1 pound, tough ends removed

1/2 pound sugar snap peas

2 medium fennel bulbs, trimmed and sliced crosswise into 1/8-inch-thick rings

4 ounces thinly sliced prosciutto, salame, mortadella or lardo

Flaky sea salt or fleur de sel

Black pepper

Extra-virgin olive oil

Basil or mint leaves

1 pound fior di latte, bufala mozzarella, burrata or fresh ricotta, at cool room temperature

1. Heat the broiler. Put a large pot of water on to boil.

2. Trim tops, roots and outer layer of spring onions, then arrange in one layer

on a broiler pan. Broil until they are lightly charred on one side, two to three minutes, then turn and broil the other side until onions have softened a bit, about three minutes more. (It's fine if they become blackened in spots.) Remove pan and let cool to room temperature. 3. When water boils, salt well and submerge asparagus. Cook briefly, about two minutes for medium spears. Lift asparagus from water and spread in one layer on a kitchen towel and let cool to room temperature. Repeat process with the sugar snap peas and spread them on a separate kitchen towel.

4. Arrange spring onions, asparagus, snap peas and fennel on a large platter. Drape prosciutto around the edge. Season vegetables lightly with sea salt and pepper and drizzle with olive oil. Garnish platter with basil or mint leaves. Put cheese on a small cutting board and pass separately. (Alternatively, compose individual plates with all components.) □